THE LINE OF
DC
SUPER-STARS
ACTION COMICS
IN THIS ISSUE:
ACTION-PLUS WITH: The ATOM
20c
NO. 433
MAR.
30410
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ACTION COMICS
BEING KIDNAPED BY INVISIBLE PEOPLE ONLY MY INFRA-RED VISION CAN SEE!
I KNOW THEY'RE TAKING ME TO MY DOOM-- BUT I DON'T DARE RESIST!
GET READY FOR A SHOCK, SUPERMAN! YOU ARE ABOUT TO MEET--
"The MAN WHO WAS BURIED ON PAGE 64!"

If you want your parents to get you a Daisy B·B Gun, look at it from their point of view.

We'd like every boy to have the thrill of owning a Daisy B•B Gun. But we want them to be ready. And parents can usually tell if they are.

You see, a Daisy is a B•B gun. It's not a toy. And owning a gun is a big responsibility.

How do your parents know when you're ready?

Usually they can tell by the way you meet other responsibilities. Like picking up after yourself. Or pitching in when there's work to be done.

But if you're ready, a Daisy B•B Gun can be one of the most valuable things your parents ever give you. Because it doesn't just take responsibility. It teaches it.

It's the best way in the world for a boy to learn marksmanship and proper gun handling.

So, when you think you're ready for a Daisy, talk it over with your parents. Tell them you're ready to take on the responsibility of ownership.

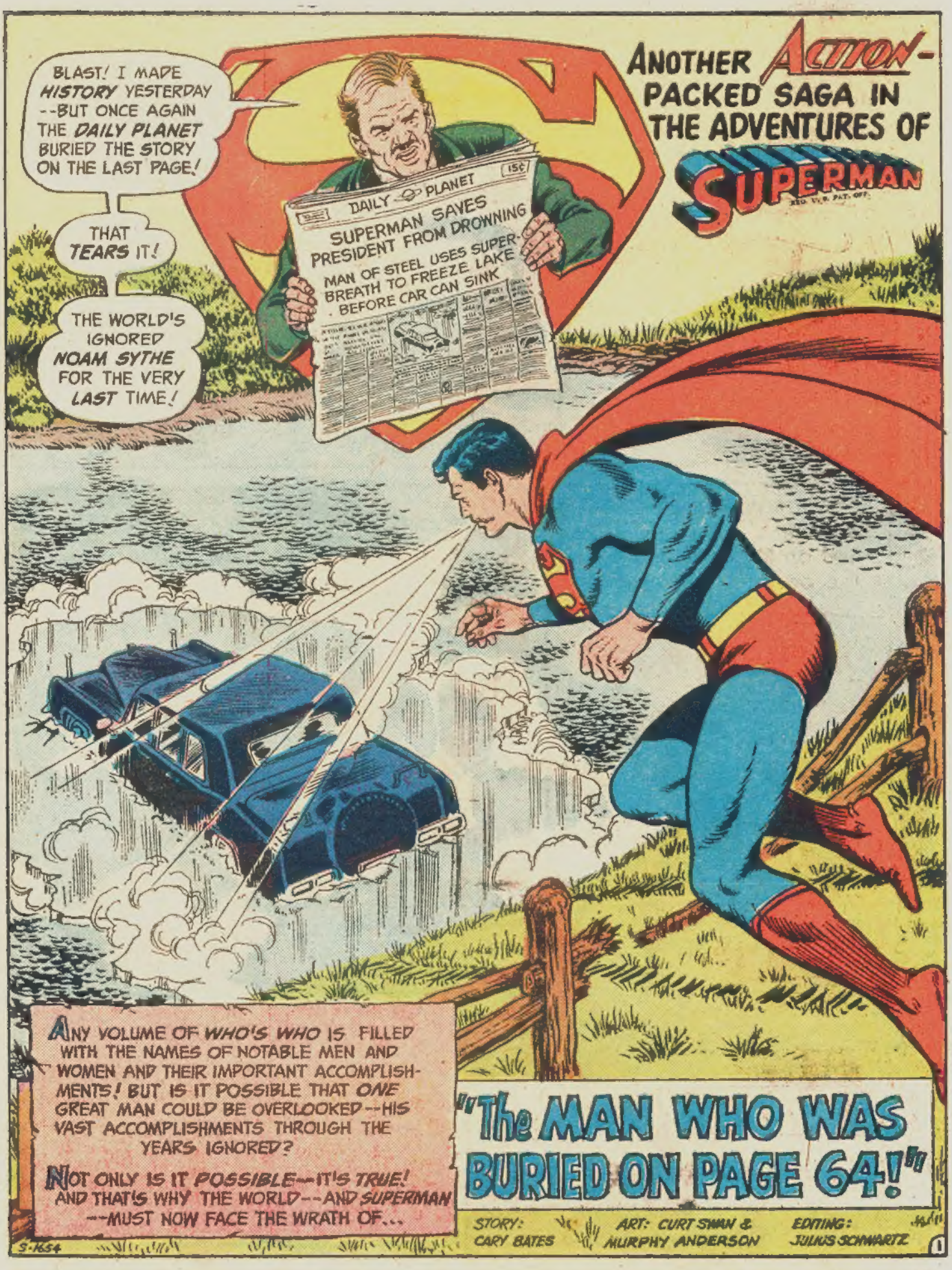
We'll have the right Daisy B•B Gun for you.

Send for "The Air Rifle Marksman." Mail your name, address, and 25c to Daisy, P.O. Box 220, Rogers, Arkansas 72756.

Daisy®
SINCE 1886

The B·B Gun every boy dreams about.

Division Victor Comptometer Corporation Rogers, Arkansas 72756



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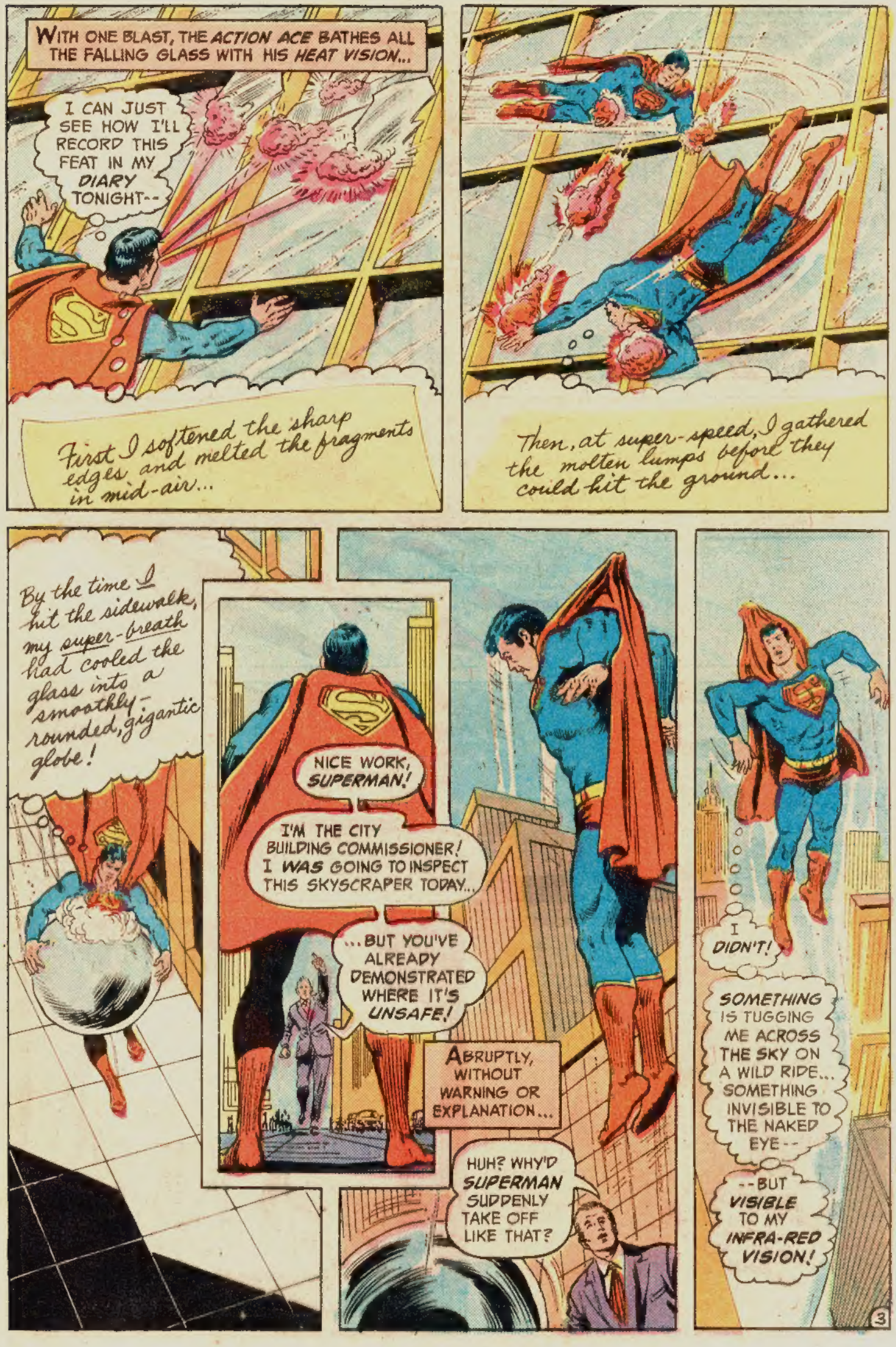
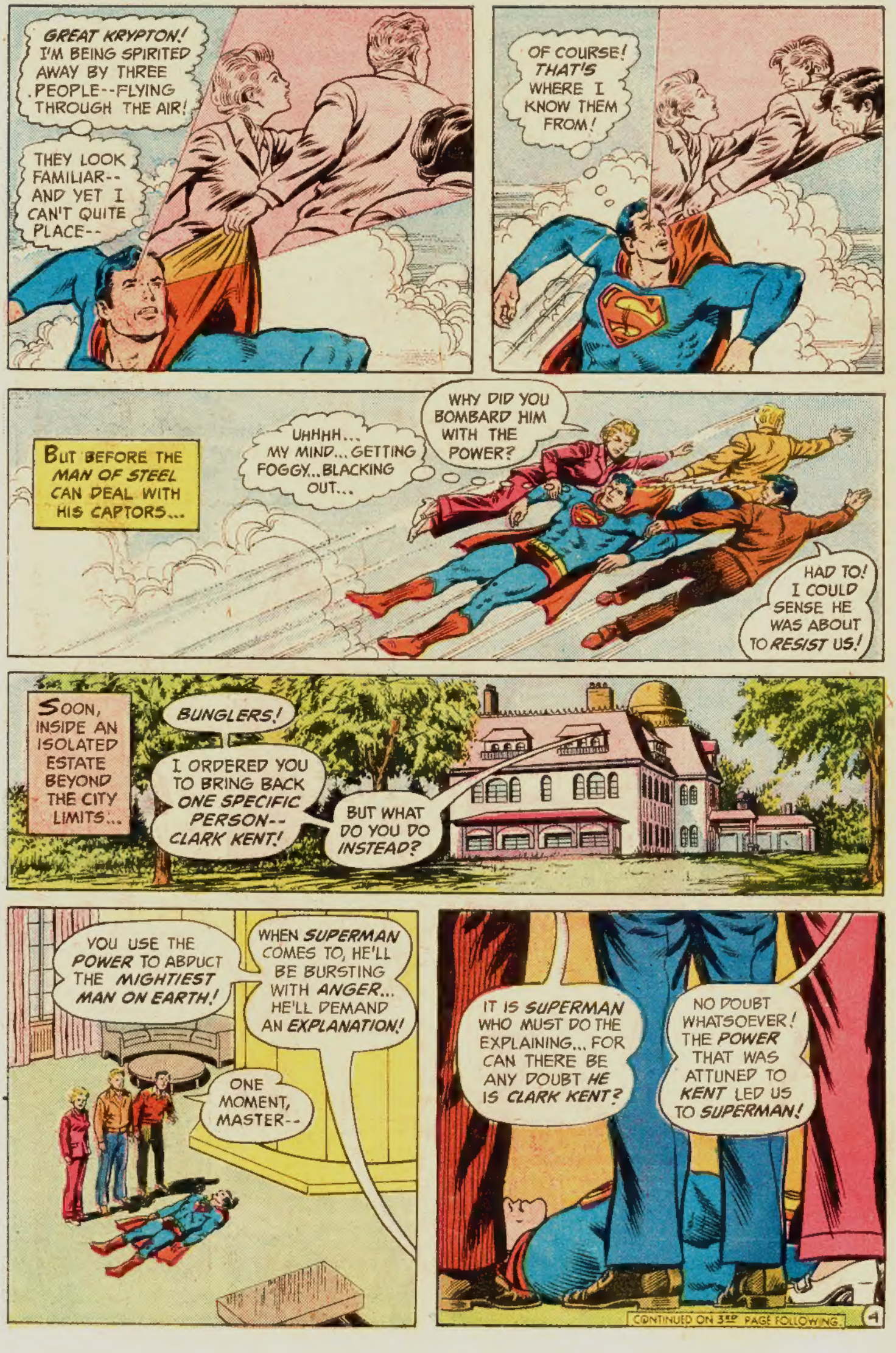
THREE PEOPLE STAND WAITING ON A METROPOLIS SIDEWALK-- A THREESOME PASSERS-BY SOMEHOW DON'T NOTICE...
THERE HE IS-- COMING OUT OF THE GALAXY BUILDING WHERE HE WORKS!
GOOD!-- HE'S WALKING OUR WAY!
GET READY TO GRAB HIM!
KUBERT'S ALLEY
OHH!-- SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!
HE SUDDENLY DASHED INTO AN ALLEY!
DO YOU THINK... HE SAW US?
ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE! AT THIS MOMENT, WE'RE COMPLETELY INVISIBLE!
THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER EXPLANATION!
INDEED THERE IS-- BECAUSE THE MYSTERY-TRIO'S QUARRY IS TV-REPORTER CLARK KENT--WHO IS SECRETLY THE ONE AND ONLY...
...SUPERMAN!
VERY HIGH WINDS DISLODGED SEVERAL SECTIONS OF THIS ALL-GLASS SKYSCRAPER--
--SENDING DEADLY JAGGED FRAGMENTS TOWARD THE GROUND BELOW!
2


WITH ONE BLAST, THE ACTION ACE BATHES ALL THE FALLING GLASS WITH HIS HEAT VISION...
I CAN JUST SEE HOW I'LL RECORD THIS FEAT IN MY DIARY TONIGHT--
First I softened the sharp edges and melted the fragments in mid-air...
Then, at super-speed, I gathered the molten lumps before they could hit the ground...
By the time I hit the sidewalk, my super-breath had cooled the glass into a smoothly-rounded, gigantic globe!
NICE WORK, SUPERMAN!
I'M THE CITY BUILDING COMMISSIONER! I WAS GOING TO INSPECT THIS SKYSCRAPER TODAY...
...BUT YOU'VE ALREADY DEMONSTRATED WHERE IT'S UNSAFE!
ABRUPTLY, WITHOUT WARNING OR EXPLANATION...
HUH? WHY'D SUPERMAN SUDDENLY TAKE OFF LIKE THAT?
I DIDN'T!
SOMETHING IS TUGGING ME ACROSS THE SKY ON A WILD RIDE... SOMETHING INVISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE--
--BUT VISIBLE TO MY INFRA-RED VISION!
3


GREAT KRYPTON! I'M BEING SPIRITED AWAY BY THREE PEOPLE--FLYING THROUGH THE AIR!
THEY LOOK FAMILIAR-- AND YET I CAN'T QUITE PLACE--
OF COURSE! THAT'S WHERE I KNOW THEM FROM!
BUT BEFORE THE MAN OF STEEL CAN DEAL WITH HIS CAPTORS...
UHHHH... MY MIND... GETTING FOGGY... BLACKING OUT...
WHY DID YOU BOMBARD HIM WITH THE POWER?
HAD TO! I COULD SENSE HE WAS ABOUT TO RESIST US!
SOON, INSIDE AN ISOLATED ESTATE BEYOND THE CITY LIMITS...
BUNGLERS!
I ORDERED YOU TO BRING BACK ONE SPECIFIC PERSON-- CLARK KENT!
BUT WHAT DO YOU DO INSTEAD?
YOU USE THE POWER TO ABDUCT THE MIGHTIEST MAN ON EARTH!
WHEN SUPERMAN COMES TO, HE'LL BE BURSTING WITH ANGER... HE'LL DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!
ONE MOMENT, MASTER--
IT IS SUPERMAN WHO MUST DO THE EXPLAINING... FOR CAN THERE BE ANY DOUBT HE IS CLARK KENT?
NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER! THE POWER THAT WAS ATTUNED TO KENT LED US TO SUPERMAN!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.
9

KARATE

JUDO-JIU-JITSU-SAVATE

THE TOTAL SELF-DEFENSE SYSTEM

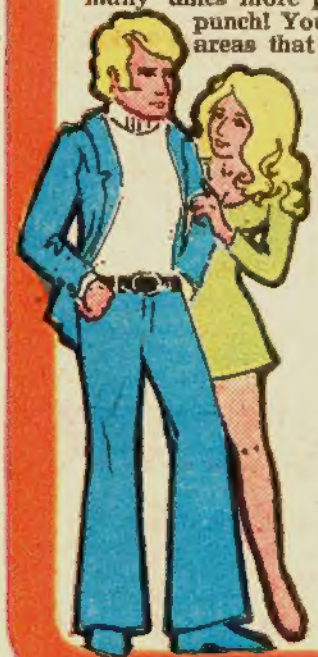
In the shortest time you can learn the fantastic secrets of self-defense and you'll never be afraid again! This unique Home Course will reveal hundreds of fighting secrets that you can put to immediate use. Easy and exciting to learn, you'll be able to master any difficult situation. In less than 15 minutes a day, the knowledge of the World's Top Fighting Experts can be Yours!!

Regardless of your age, you can master this TOTAL SELF-DEFENSE SYSTEM! It doesn't require muscles or size to be a MASTER at self-defense, but it does require KNOW-HOW!! The knowledge of Karate has enabled small, slight men to successfully and completely protect themselves from men twice their size; in just seconds the Karate Master can completely immobilize any attacker—destroying him!

By the time you complete our course...

YOUR HANDS AND FEET WILL HAVE SUPER FANTASTIC POWER!!

Your hands will have the power of an axe and you can use your elbows, knees and feet as death-dealing clubs! Karate is the most feared fighting method known to man! The open hand can deliver a single Karate blow many times more powerful than a boxing champions punch! You'll quickly learn all the vital striking areas that will flatten the biggest and toughest assaulter...FAST!! You'll reduce any assailant to cringing helplessness, in just seconds. You'll fear no man... ever! Our TOTAL SELF-DEFENSE SYSTEM is the most DEADLY form of defense and attack ever devised.



YOU'LL HAVE COMPLETE SELF-DEFENSE MASTERY

EVERYONE ADMIRES AND RESPECTS A KARATE MASTER! Once you learn the secrets of Karate and our Total Self-Defense System—you'll possess a New Self-Confidence that will generate a new you! You'll be able to Master any situation. You can actually become a destructive, fighting, self-defense power machine ...in the shortest time!! You'll learn the secrets of Karate, Judo, Savate, Jui-Jitsu, Secret fighting methods, which add up to the most complete Total Self-Defense System ever!!

Regardless of your age or build...

YOU CAN BECOME MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY MAN!

We'll help you to become aware of the destructive forces you already possess. We'll teach you to channel your forces so that you'll be able to disarm any attacker, whether carrying a knife, gun or chain!

- Learn the secrets of the Ancient Oriental Masters!
- Walk the streets with a New Confidence, feeling safe, knowing you can protect your loved ones.
- Learn all the vulnerable areas of the body — so that you can demolish anybody!
- Destroy any attacker in seconds, even two or three attackers at once!
- Easy to read, completely illustrated instructions — learn at home!

FREE MAIL TODAY

UNIVERSAL Dept. SS
Box 39303
Detroit, Mich. 48239

Please send me all that Free Fantastic Information plus a Free Colorful Brochure — that will show me how to become a Self-Defense Fighting Expert!! Enclosed you'll find 25c to help cover postage and handling.

Name_____ Age____

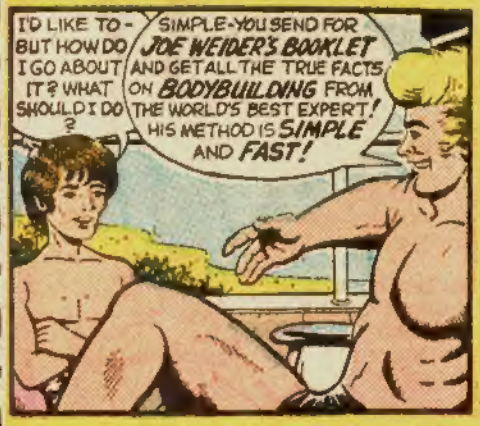
Address_____

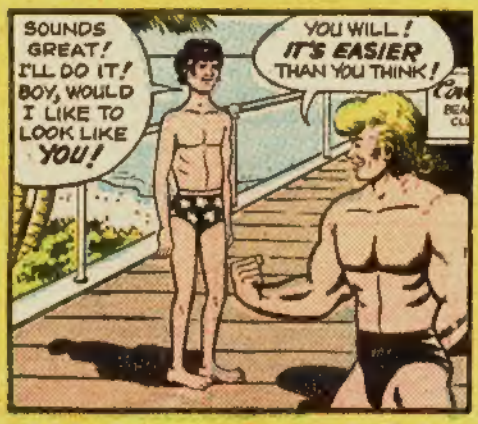
City_____ State_____ Zip____

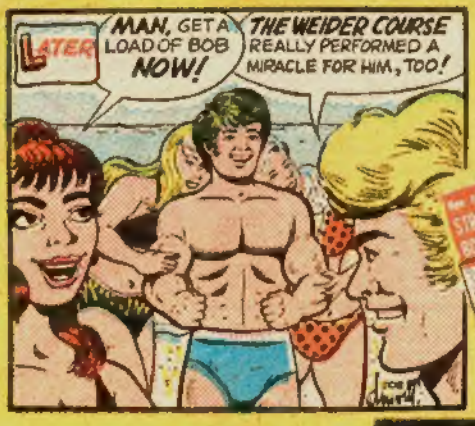
The Simple Advice That Changed Bob's Body...and his Entire Life!

Joe Weider — "Trainer of Champions" such as, "Mr. America", "Mr. Universe", "Mr. Europe", "Mr. World", "Mr. Olympia" and many other award-winning titles. "Read about the Champs in my Booklet offered in this ad! See the fantastic photographs of these famous bodybuilding Champions! Learn how THEY started to build strong, powerful muscular bodies — FAST and EASY!"

Joe Weider
JOE WEIDER







Joe Weider's Course, explained in his 32 page Booklet, "How To Build A Strong Muscular Body", gives you the Fast, Easy Way to pack on solid muscles on your arms, chest, back, legs and entire body!

In just a few minutes a day, you begin to see yourself grow stronger, more powerful, more virile than you ever thought possible. Add 4" to your chest, 3" or more to each arm, double your strength and become confident and sure of yourself.

Even your personality becomes more dynamic and attractive when you exchange your weak, skinny and unappealing body for a body that is a storehouse of energy, strength and sex-appeal! In fact, your new body development will make you appear handsomer! Watch how the girls tell you that in so many different ways!

What Joe Weider's Course has done for bodybuilding Champions such as: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Dave Draper, Frank Zane, Larry Scott and hundreds of others—the Course CAN DO FOR YOU!

BUT — YOU must take the first step, easy as it is!

RIGHT NOW — before another second passes by — fill out and mail the coupon below. Rush it with 25¢ to us TODAY! In return we'll rush you, "How To Build A Strong Muscular Body".

BUT . . . *you must ACT NOW! Your "New Body" and your future happiness could depend on this Booklet!*

Why Be SKINNY?

ARE YOU A LITTLE LIKE BOB, WISHING FOR A BETTER BUILT BODY? STOP WISHING AND ACT! DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT TODAY — SEND FOR JOE WEIDER'S FANTASTIC BOOKLET — RIGHT NOW!

JOE WEIDER — Dept:80-34C, 55 Maple St., Norwood, N.J. 07648

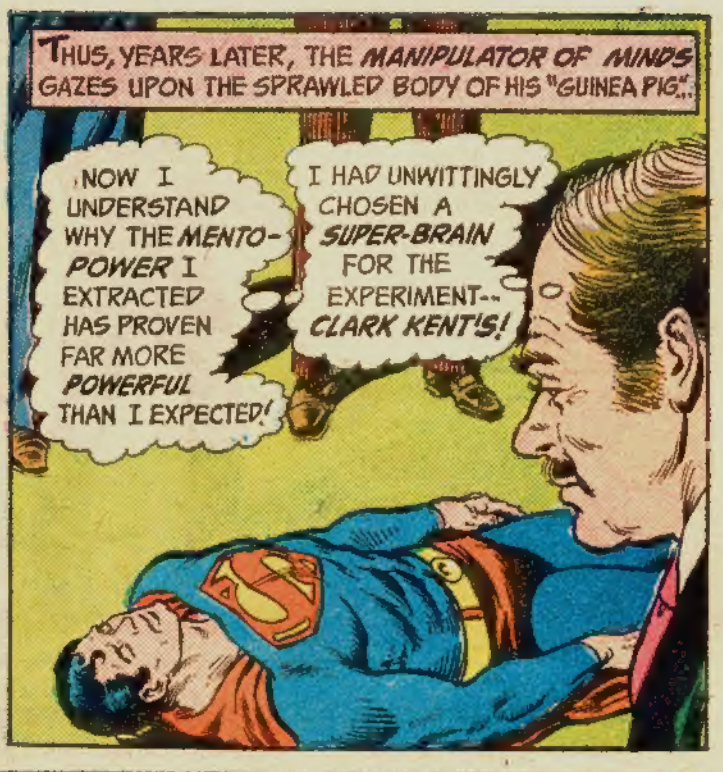
SEND FOR YOUR COPY

Joe Weider, Dept: 80-34C
55 Maple St., Norwood, N.J. 07648
O.K. Joe — mail me a copy of "How To Build A Strong Muscular Body". I will follow your advice on bodybuilding. I enclosed 25¢ to cover the cost of postage and mailing.

Name ..... Age .....
Address .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....

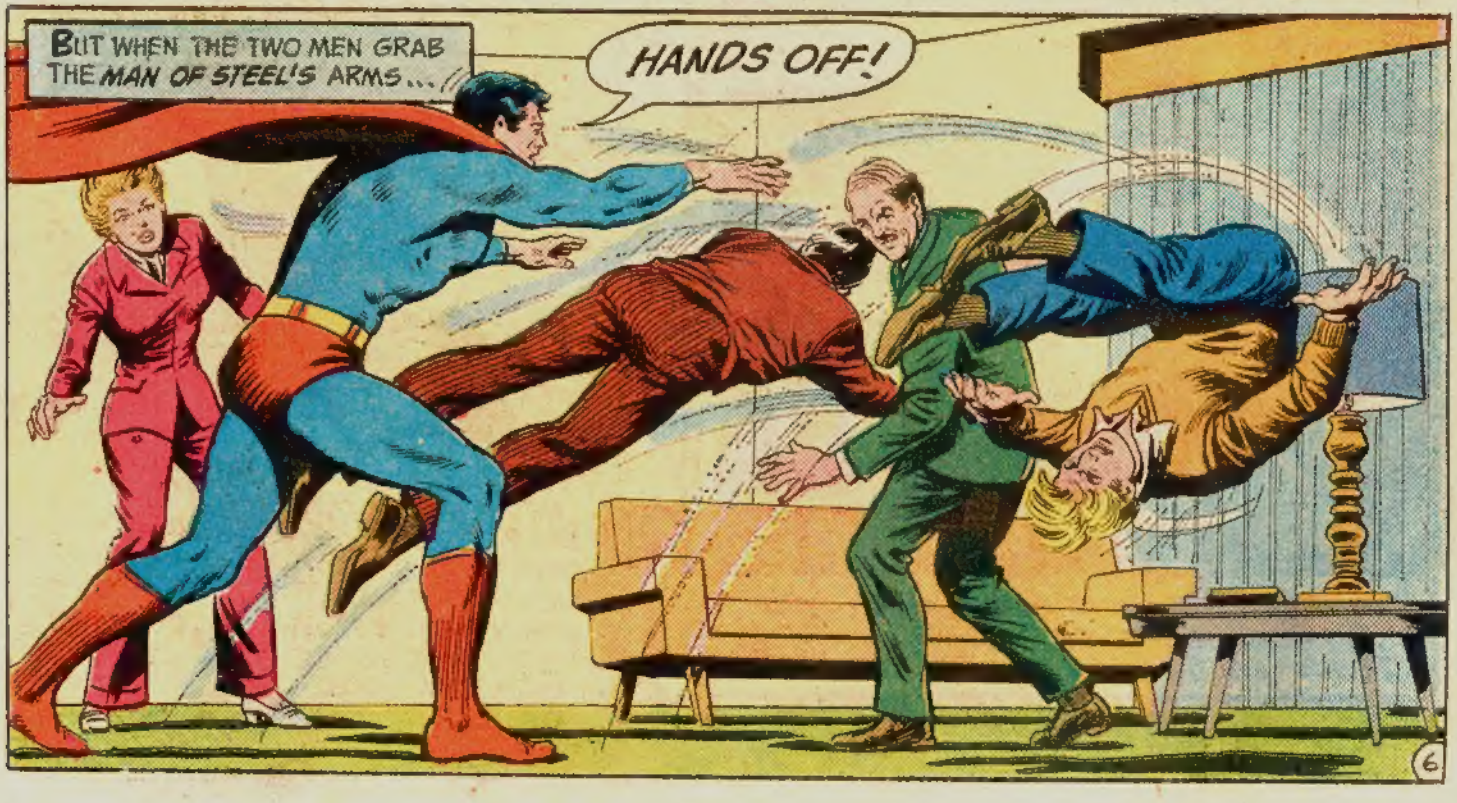
YES... YOU'RE RIGHT! THE POWER IS INFALLIBLE!
MY EXPERIMENT IS WORKING OUT EVEN BETTER THAN I PLANNED...
EXCITEDLY, THE AWE-STRUCK MAN'S THOUGHTS DRIFT A CERTAIN NUMBER OF YEARS INTO THE PAST...
HOW WELL I REMEMBER WHEN THIS BEGAN--THAT GRADUATION DAY AT METROPOLIS UNIVERSITY WHERE I WAS THE GUEST-SPEAKER AT THE COMMENCEMENT!
I HAD PRIVATELY SCREENED THE RECORDS OF EVERY GRADUATING SENIOR VERY CAREFULLY...
"...UNTIL I HAD SELECTED FOUR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS WHOSE FUTURE CAREERS MADE THEM IDEAL SUBJECTS FOR MY EXPERIMENT..."
YES, INDEED...THAT QUARTET IS MY TICKET TO WORLD-WIDE FAME!
MUST ACT QUICKLY ...WHILE ALL FOUR ARE STANDING NEAR EACH OTHER...
"DISCREETLY I SUBJECTED THEM TO MY COMPACT MENTO-EXTRACTOR, DISGUISED AS A FOUNTAIN PEN..."
THIS INVISIBLE PINPOINT BEAM WILL SET UP A CHAIN REACTION BETWEEN THEIR BRAINS... LINKING THEM TOGETHER!
"IT'S BEEN PROVEN THAT ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE BRAIN IS EVER USED DURING A PERSON'S LIFETIME--AND THAT GOES EVEN FOR HIGH IQ GROUPS!"
FROM NOW ON, MY MENTO-EXTRACTOR WILL ABSORB THE VAST AMOUNTS OF UNUSED BRAIN-POWER FROM THOSE FOUR GRADUATES' MINDS, NOW LINKED TOGETHER AS ONE!
THEY'LL NEVER MISS THE EXCESS ENERGY I'M SIPHONING FROM THEIR BRAINS...
5

...ENERGY WHICH WILL GIVE THE MENTO-EXTRACTOR COMPLETE CONTROL OVER THEM FOR YEARS TO COME!
THEY'LL EACH GO OUT IN THE WORLD AND ESTABLISH BRILLIANT CAREERS!
AND AFTER THEY BECOME LEADERS IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL FIELDS--
...I'LL SUMMON THEM BACK FOR A "REUNION"... ...AND COMPLETE MY HISTORY-MAKING EXPERIMENT!

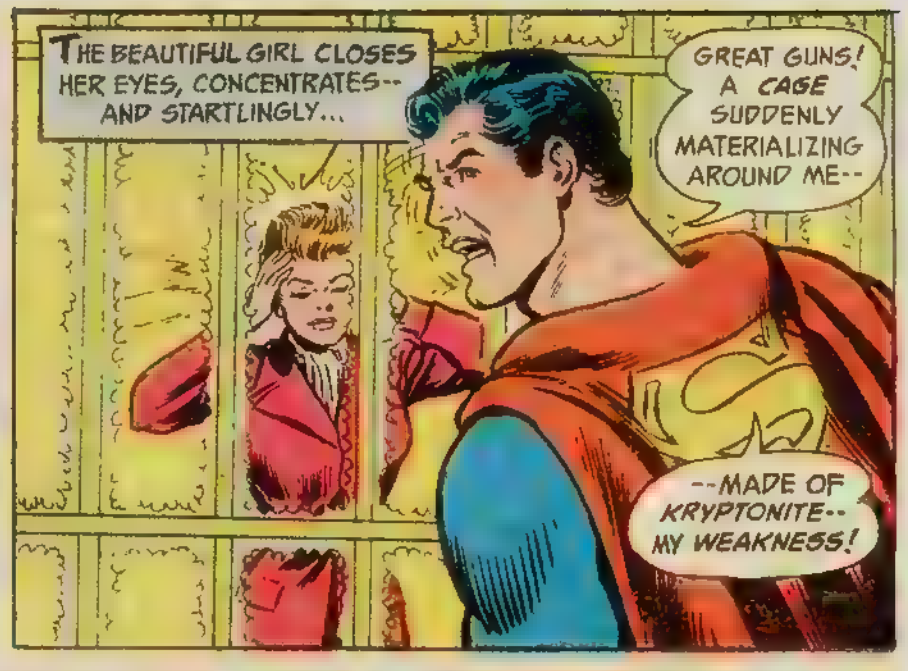

THUS, YEARS LATER, THE MANIPULATOR OF MINDS GAZES UPON THE SPRAWLED BODY OF HIS "GUINEA PIG"...
NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY THE MENTO-POWER I EXTRACTED HAS PROVEN FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN I EXPECTED!
I HAD UNWITTINGLY CHOSEN A SUPER-BRAIN FOR THE EXPERIMENT--CLARK KENT'S!

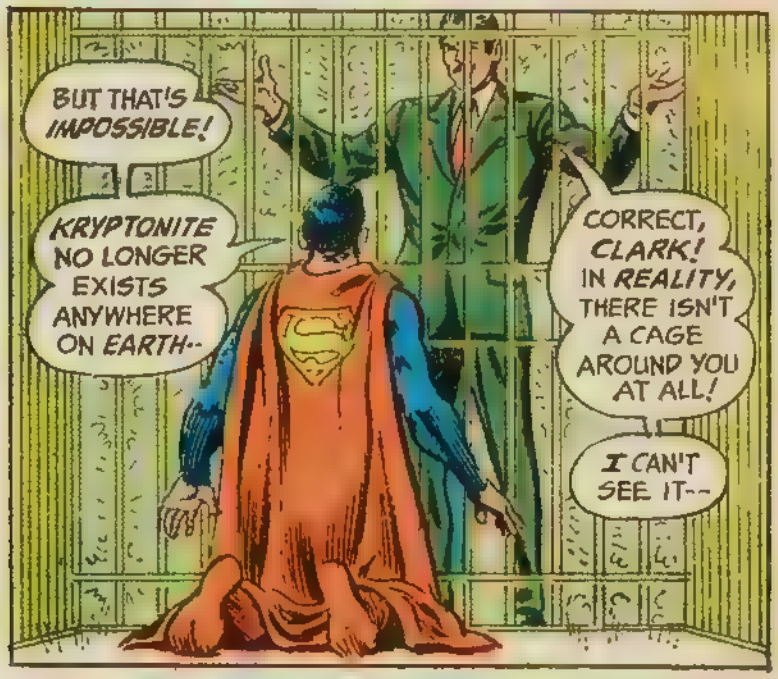
DON'T KNOW WHERE I AM... OR HOW THESE FORMER CLASSMATES OF MINE WERE ABLE TO OVERPOWER ME...
BUT NOW THAT MY MIND'S CLEARING, IT'S HIGH TIME I FOUND OUT!

?!?
HUH?
SUPERMAN--HE'S UP!
STOP HIM! THAT'S AN ORDER!

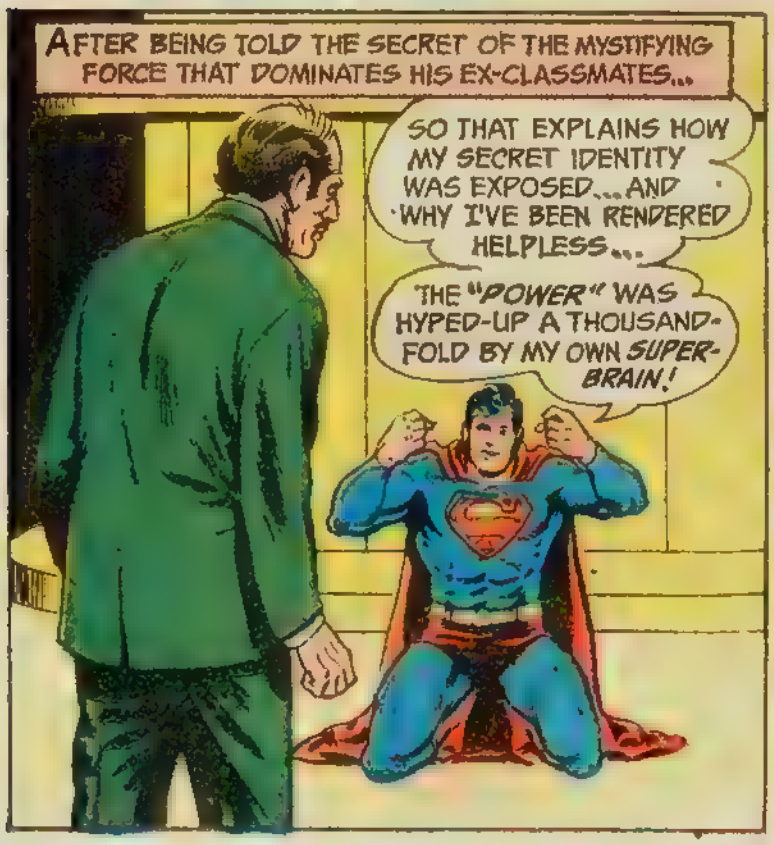

BUT WHEN THE TWO MEN GRAB THE MAN OF STEEL'S ARMS...
HANDS OFF!
6

QUICKLY, MASTER SYTHE-- GIVE ME AN EXTRA BOOST OF THE POWER!
AND I SHALL EFFECTIVELY DEAL WITH HIM!


THE BEAUTIFUL GIRL CLOSES HER EYES, CONCENTRATES-- AND STARTLINGLY...
GREAT GUNS! A CAGE SUDDENLY MATERIALIZING AROUND ME--
--MADE OF KRYPTONITE-- MY WEAKNESS!


BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
KRYPTONITE NO LONGER EXISTS ANYWHERE ON EARTH--
CORRECT, CLARK! IN REALITY, THERE ISN'T A CAGE AROUND YOU AT ALL!
I CAN'T SEE IT--

-BUT YOU CAN!
GASP MENTO-POWER? WHAT IS THAT?
MENTO-POWER HAS BRAIN-WASHED YOUR MIND INTO BELIEVING YOU'RE IMPRISONED BEHIND BARS...
...FROM WHICH YOU ARE POWERLESS TO ESCAPE!


AFTER BEING TOLD THE SECRET OF THE MYSTIFYING FORCE THAT DOMINATES HIS EX-CLASSMATES...
SO THAT EXPLAINS HOW MY SECRET IDENTITY WAS EXPOSED... AND WHY I'VE BEEN RENDERED HELPLESS...
THE "POWER" WAS HYPED-UP A THOUSAND-FOLD BY MY OWN SUPER-BRAIN!

STILL IN AGONY FROM THE IMAGINARY KRYPTONITE AROUND HIM, THE ACTION ACE FACES THE TRIO OF FRIENDS-TURNED-FOES...
MARTY LERNER... ELLEN PRATT... SKITCH SMITH!
SATISFY MY CURIOSITY, SYTHE-- OUT OF THE HUNDREDS IN MY GRADUATING CLASS --WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THEM?

YOU'LL KNOW... *AFTER* I EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF MY GLORIOUS *EXPERIMENT!*

SUPERMAN, YOU ARE LOOKING AT A MAN WHO HAS BEEN *MERCILESSLY IGNORED* ALL HIS LIFE BY THE *WORLD!*

EVERY TIME I ACHIEVED *GREATNESS*...

...*HISTORY* FAILED TO ADEQUATELY *RECORD* IT!

I'VE ACCOMPLISHED MORE IN MY LIFETIME THAN ANY *TEN* MEN COULD EVER HOPE TO...

YET HARDLY ANYONE IS AWARE OF THE GREAT THINGS *I'VE* ACCOMPLISHED ...AND NOW YOU'LL SEE *WHY!*

AT THE TENDER AGE OF 17, IN THE SPRING OF *1927*, I UNEARTHED A PREHISTORIC *SKULL* THAT PROVED THAT MAN EXISTED EONS *EARLIER* THAN SCIENCE BELIEVED!

ON THAT VERY SAME DAY, *CHARLES LINDBERGH* COMPLETED HIS HISTORIC *SOLO FLIGHT*-- SO MY STORY WAS BURIED WAY BACK ON PAGE 64!

DAILY PLANET 3¢

MAY 21, 1927

LINDY CROSSES ATLANTIC

DAILY PLANET

MARS INVASION A RADIO HOAX!

"*OCTOBER 30TH, 1938*--ON ONE OF MY EXPEDITIONS I DISCOVERED A *DEAD SEA SCROLL*--A SENSATIONAL HISTORIC FIND!' BUT AGAIN I WAS 'BURIED'! MAKING THE FRONT-PAGE NEWS WAS *ORSON WELLES'* FAMOUS RADIO-SCARE OF A *MARTIAN ATTACK ON EARTH!*"

ATOM BOMB BLASTS HIROSHIMA

"IT WAS EARLY *AUGUST, 1945*, THAT I CORRECTLY PREDICTED AN *EARTHQUAKE* AND MADE A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE SCIENCE OF *SEISMOLOGY*.. --BUT THE WORLD WAS SHOOK BY *ANOTHER* HEADLINE THAT BLACK DAY!".

JFK ASSASSINATED IN DALLAS!

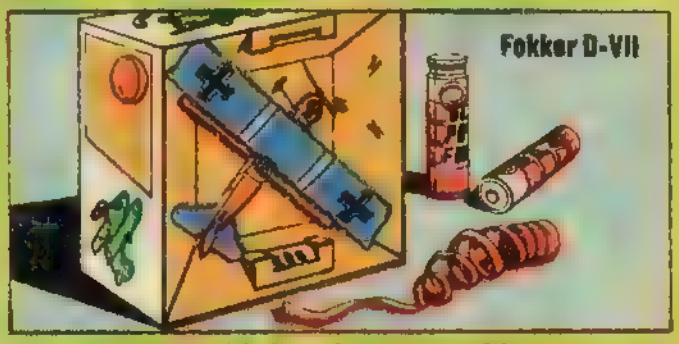
"*NOVEMBER 22ND, 1963*--I SIGHTED A NEW MULTI-TAILED COMET--

"--BUT THAT NOVEMBER DAY WENT DOWN IN HISTORY FOR A VERY *TRAGIC* REASON!"

CONTINUED ON 3ER PAGE FOLLOWING

GOT'CHA !

Fly and win with a ready-to-fly Cox Early Bird, Fokker D-VII, Sopwith Camel, Fokker Triplane.



Each complete with four foot competition streamer, fuel, battery and accessories. All at a new low price.

The trick is to out-maneuver your opponent. Get behind him. Close in as he dives, loops and does a snappy wing-over in an effort to escape.

Then bore in and cut his tail streamer with your prop. You've got him!

These are the ready-to-fly, easiest starting, authentically-designed gas engine powered models precision-built by Cox.

They're powered by Cox's famed, super dependable .049 engines. They're molded of high impact plastic to take the shock of crash landings. 13-inch wingspans.

Now at your hobby, toy, or department store. Get your friends together for a contest of skill and hours of exciting fun!

Available at fine stores throughout Canada

L. M. COX MFG. CO., INC.
1505 East Warner Avenue Santa Ana, California 92705
A Subsidiary of Leisure Dynamics, Inc.

Write for a full-color brochure of Cox gas-powered planes, cars, rockets, trains and accessories. Address Dept. NC-74.

Disneykin play characters are here!

colorful exciting fun

SET A
16 pieces at **$2.98**

Mickey Mouse Donald Duck Goofy Pluto
Minnie Mouse Monty Daisy Duck Dewey Dumbo Timothy
Jiminy Cricket Alice Pinocchio Peter Pan Tinker Bell Bambi

SET B
16 pieces at **$2.98**

Snow White Happy
Doc Bashful Grumpy Sleepy Sneezy Rabbit Figaro Geppetto
Dopey Panchito Joe Carioca Pecos Bill Captain Hook Blue Fairy

Now you can start your very own Disneykin collection. All the best loved Disney characters are here: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket, Bambi and Thumper, Peter Pan and Captain Hook, Minnie Mouse, Dumbo and many, many more. 34-pieces in all. Each is hand-painted in colorful costume. Their warm, friendly, lovable faces look like they just stepped out of Disneyland to say hello just to you. Made of plastic with an average height of 1½ inches. And kids, Disneykins are available in sets, so you can start your collection off fast.

[illegible] $2.98
[illegible] $2.98

Or buy all 32 pieces for only $5.98 and get a bonus of 2 extra pieces absolutely free.

Add 50c postage/handling for each order.

© WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS

SADDLE VALLEY SALES, INC.
P.O. Box 144 Saddle River, N. J. 07458

Enclosed find $_____. Please send me the Disneykin set(s) I have chosen. I understand that I must be completely satisfied or my money will be refunded.

_____ Set(s) A @ $2.98 _____ Set(s) B @ $2.98
_____ Set(s) A and B with 2 bonus pieces @ $5.98
_____ Set(s) of special offer, 4 for $1.00

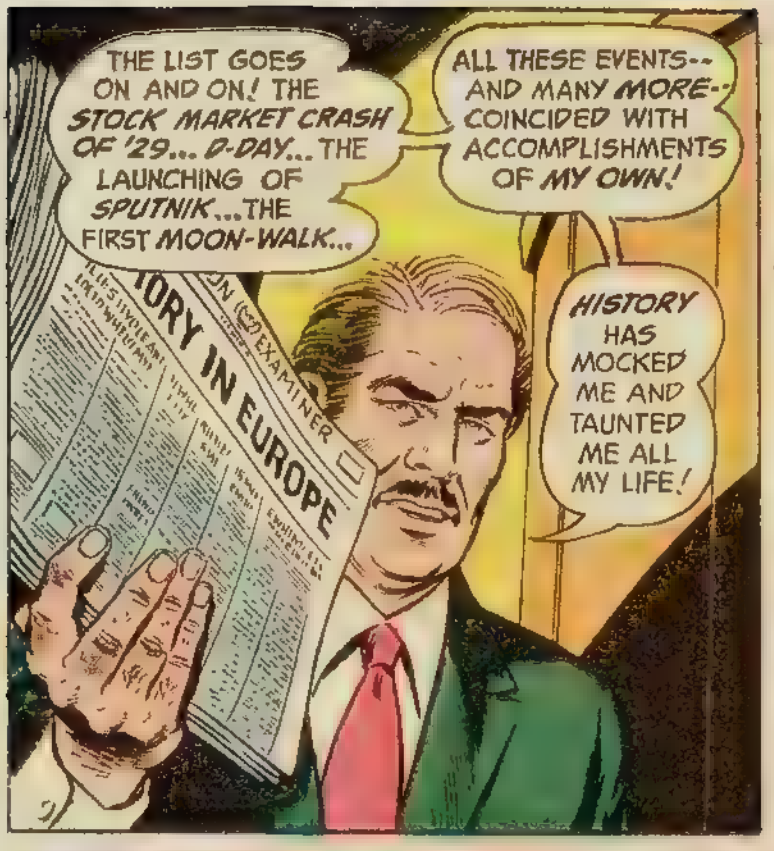
Add 50c per order for postage and handling.

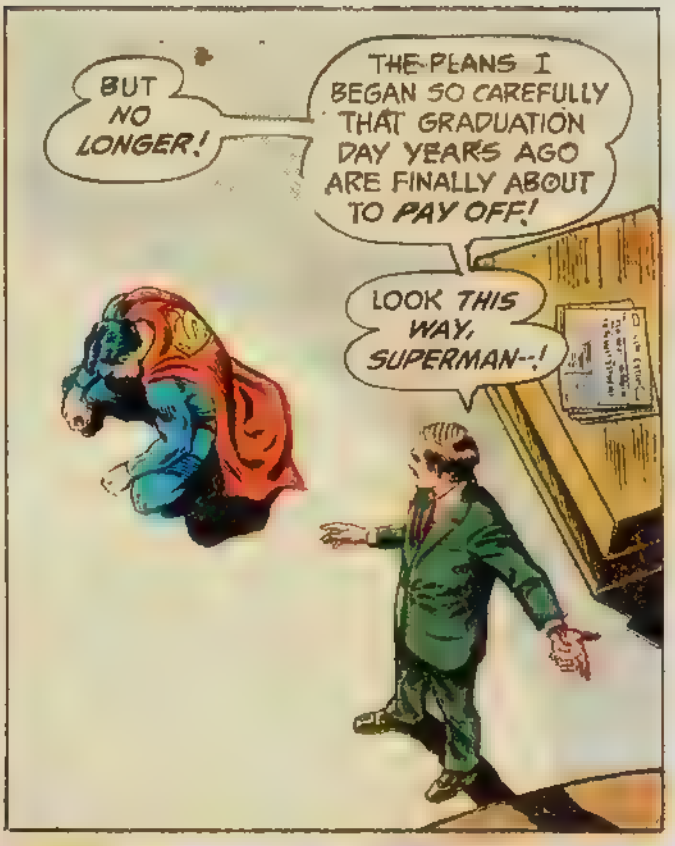
Name_____

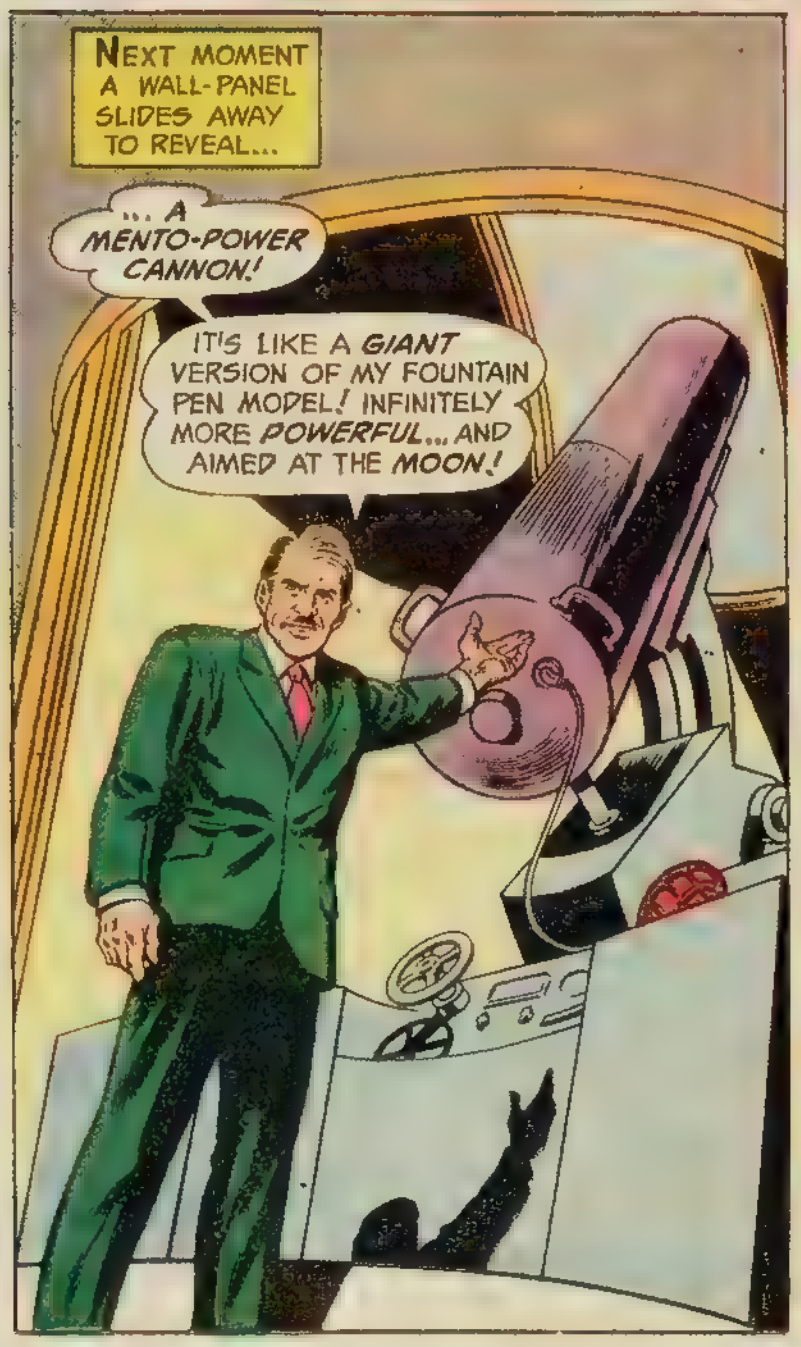
Address_____

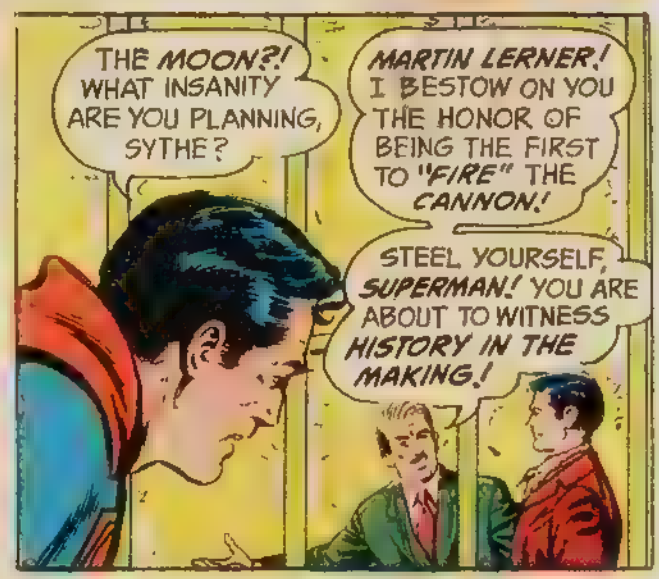
City_____

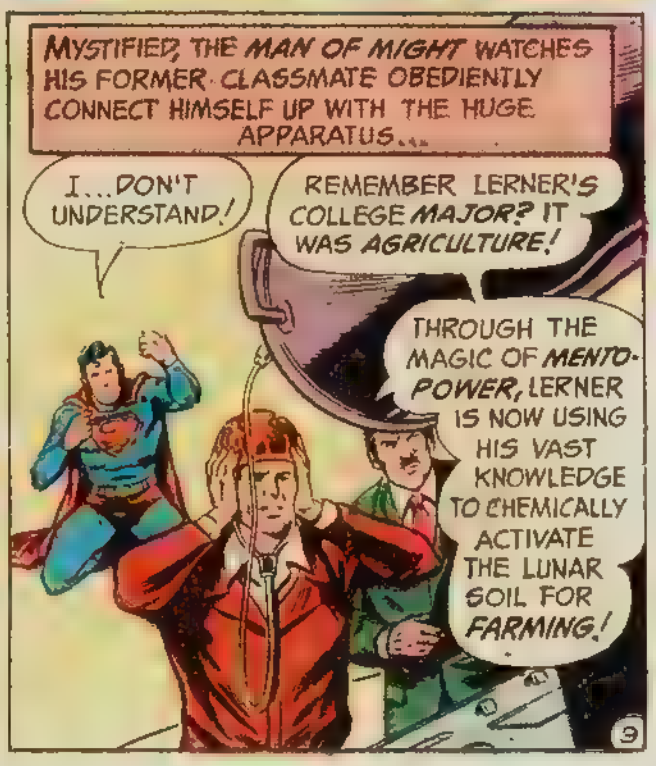
State_____ Zip_____

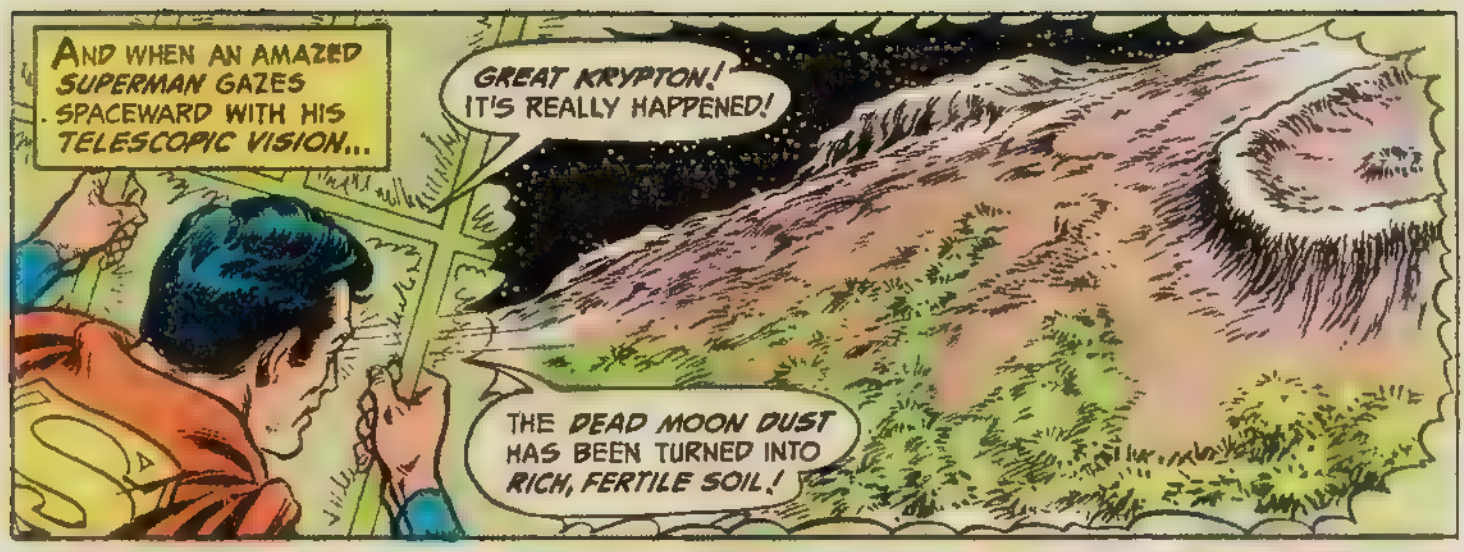

THE LIST GOES ON AND ON! THE STOCK MARKET CRASH OF '29... D-DAY... THE LAUNCHING OF SPUTNIK...THE FIRST MOON-WALK...
ALL THESE EVENTS-- AND MANY MORE-- COINCIDED WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MY OWN!
HISTORY HAS MOCKED ME AND TAUNTED ME ALL MY LIFE!
EXAMINER
TORY IN EUROPE

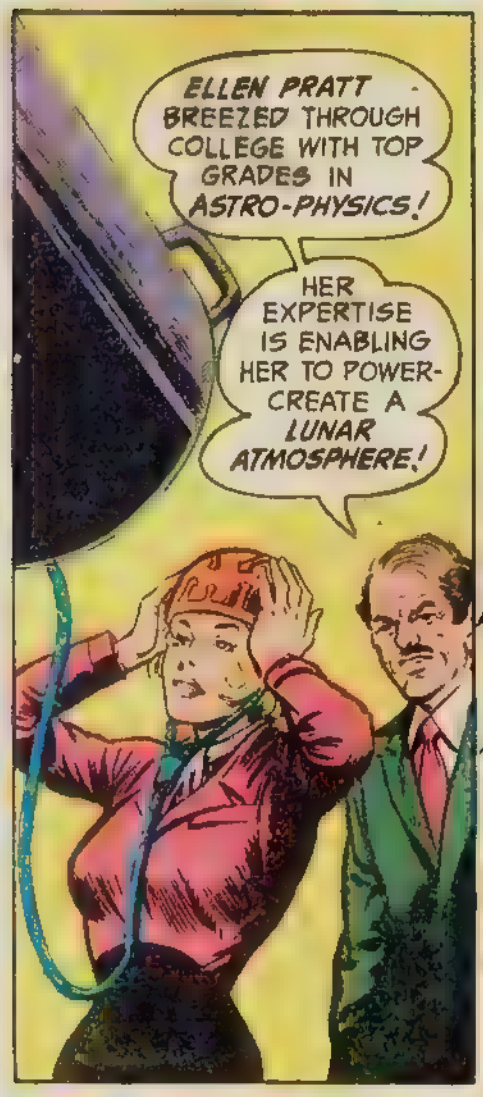

BUT NO LONGER!
THE PLANS I BEGAN SO CAREFULLY THAT GRADUATION DAY YEARS AGO ARE FINALLY ABOUT TO PAY OFF!
LOOK THIS WAY, SUPERMAN--!

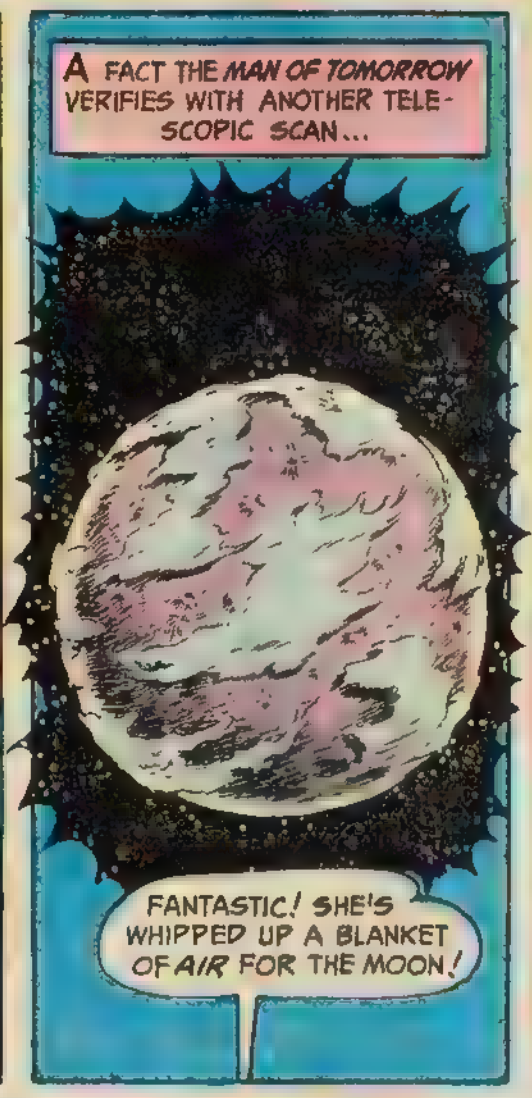

NEXT MOMENT A WALL-PANEL SLIDES AWAY TO REVEAL...
... A MENTO-POWER CANNON!
IT'S LIKE A GIANT VERSION OF MY FOUNTAIN PEN MODEL! INFINITELY MORE POWERFUL... AND AIMED AT THE MOON!


THE MOON?! WHAT INSANITY ARE YOU PLANNING, SYTHE?
MARTIN LERNER! I BESTOW ON YOU THE HONOR OF BEING THE FIRST TO "FIRE" THE CANNON!
STEEL YOURSELF, SUPERMAN! YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS HISTORY IN THE MAKING!

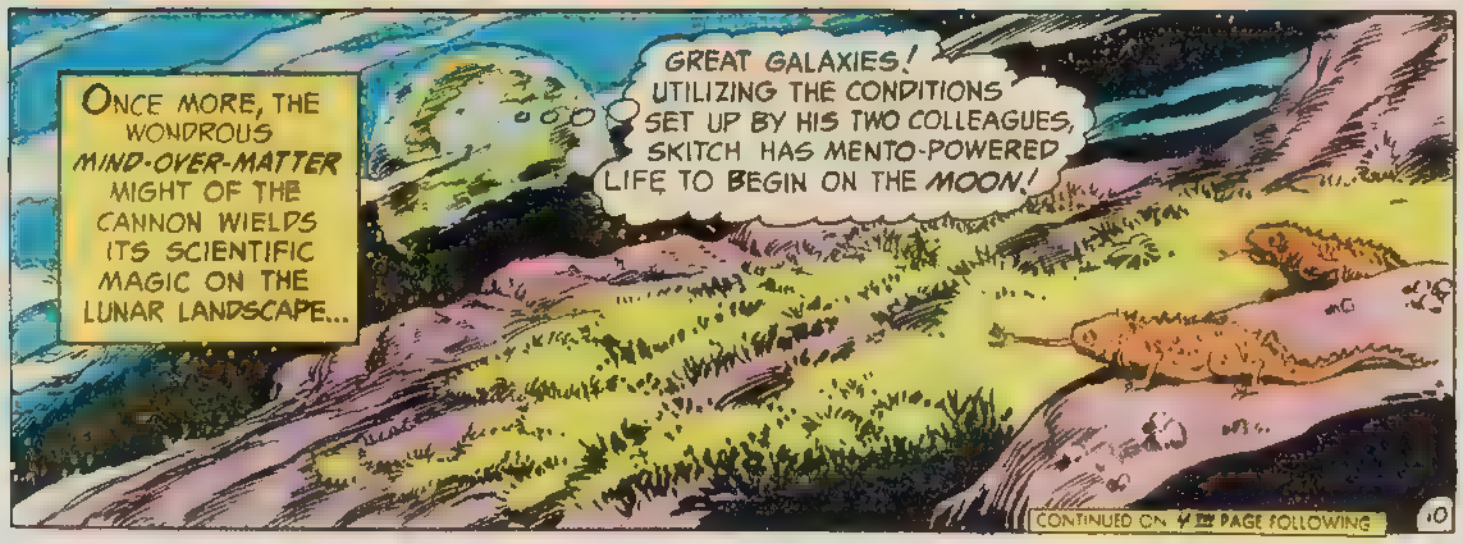

MYSTIFIED, THE MAN OF MIGHT WATCHES HIS FORMER CLASSMATE OBEDIENTLY CONNECT HIMSELF UP WITH THE HUGE APPARATUS...
I...DON'T UNDERSTAND!
REMEMBER LERNER'S COLLEGE MAJOR? IT WAS AGRICULTURE!
THROUGH THE MAGIC OF MENTO-POWER, LERNER IS NOW USING HIS VAST KNOWLEDGE TO CHEMICALLY ACTIVATE THE LUNAR SOIL FOR FARMING!
9


AND WHEN AN AMAZED SUPERMAN GAZES SPACEWARD WITH HIS TELESCOPIC VISION...
GREAT KRYPTON! IT'S REALLY HAPPENED!
THE DEAD MOON DUST HAS BEEN TURNED INTO RICH, FERTILE SOIL!


ELLEN PRATT BREEZED THROUGH COLLEGE WITH TOP GRADES IN ASTRO-PHYSICS!
HER EXPERTISE IS ENABLING HER TO POWER-CREATE A LUNAR ATMOSPHERE!


A FACT THE MAN OF TOMORROW VERIFIES WITH ANOTHER TELESCOPIC SCAN...
FANTASTIC! SHE'S WHIPPED UP A BLANKET OF AIR FOR THE MOON!

AND NOW, IT'S SKITCH SMITH'S TURN!
AS YOU REMEMBER, SUPERMAN, HE MAJORED IN ADVANCED BIOLOGY!


ONCE MORE, THE WONDROUS MIND-OVER-MATTER MIGHT OF THE CANNON WIELDS ITS SCIENTIFIC MAGIC ON THE LUNAR LANDSCAPE...
GREAT GALAXIES! UTILIZING THE CONDITIONS SET UP BY HIS TWO COLLEAGUES, SKITCH HAS MENTO-POWERED LIFE TO BEGIN ON THE MOON!
CONTINUED ON 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING

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- 37 ☐ SWAMP THING
- 42 ☐ WEIRD MYSTERY TALES
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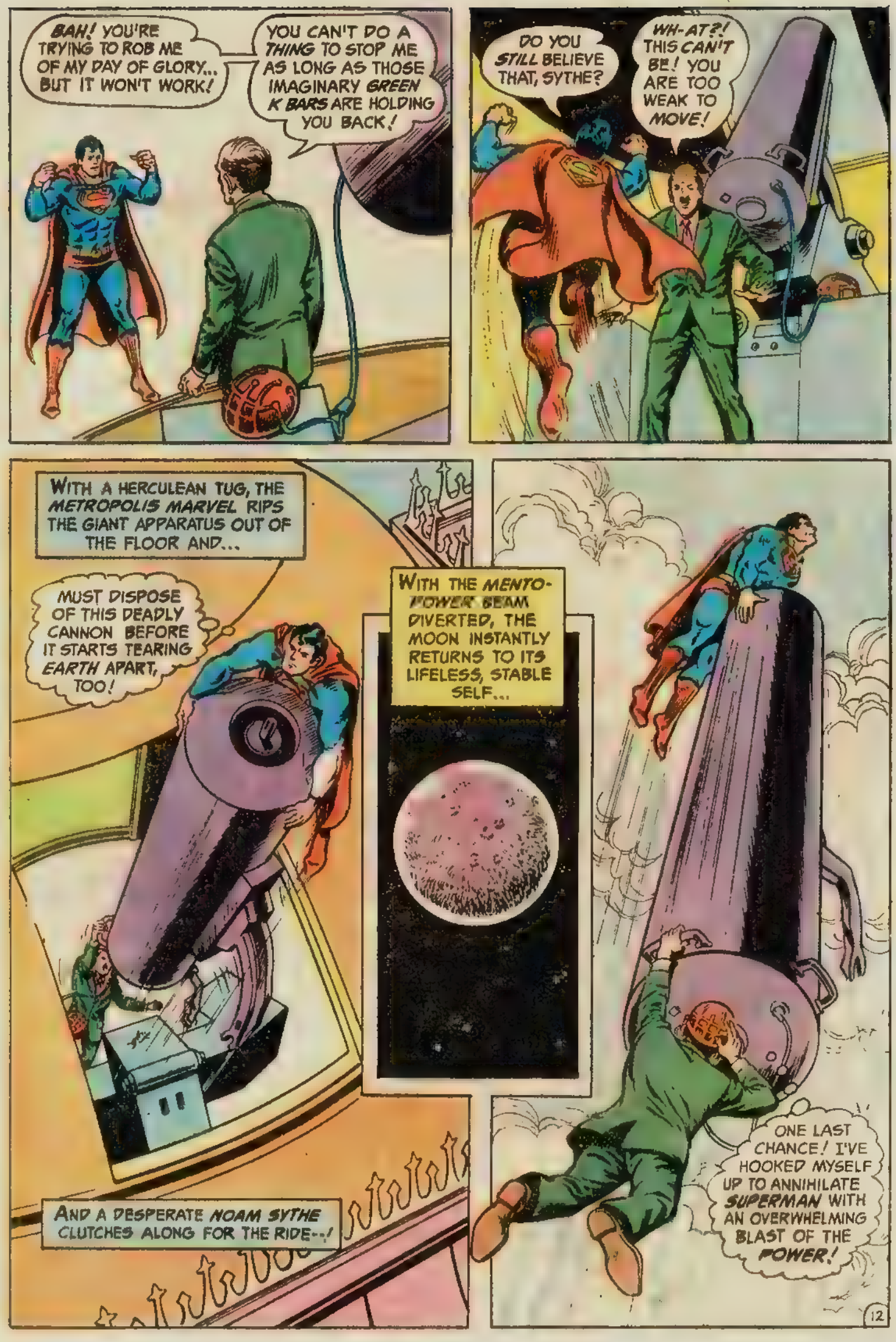
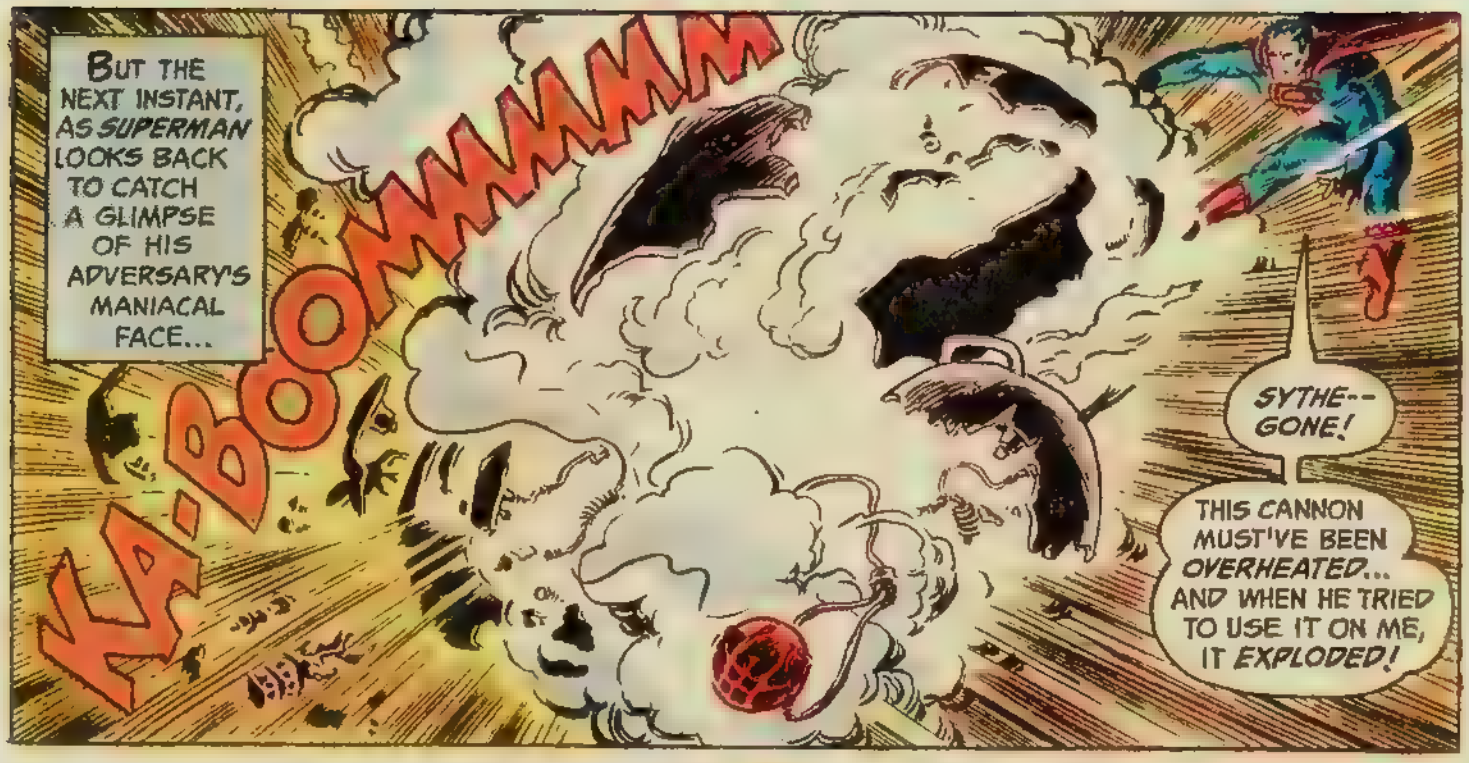
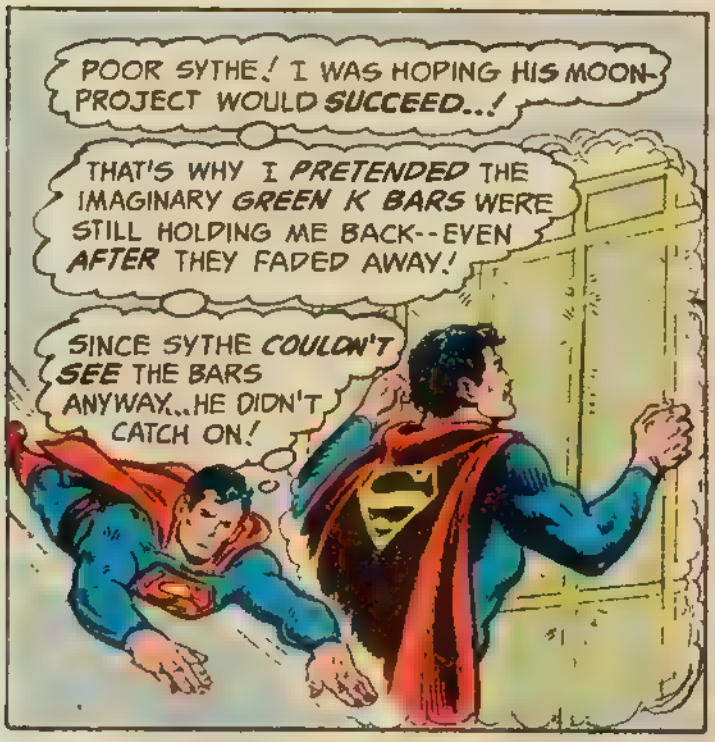
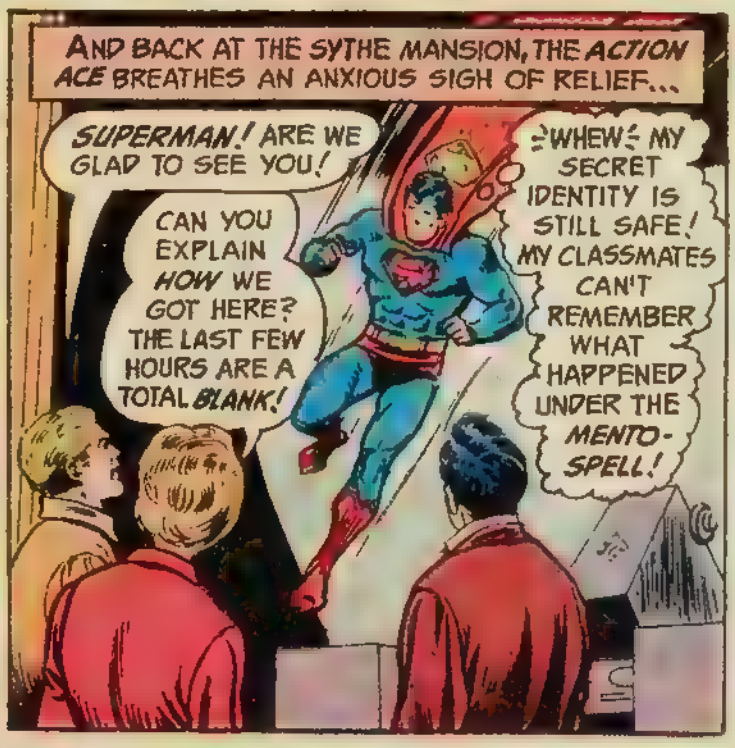
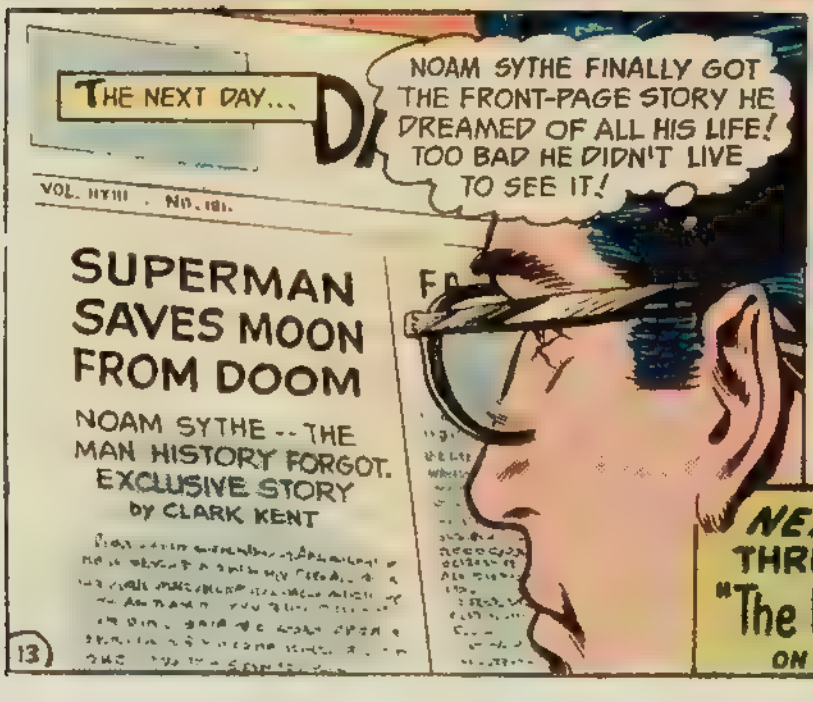
THE PLANTS AND ANIMALS ARE PRIMITIVE...BUT SO WAS EARTH, MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO!
I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND YOUR "EXPERIMENT," SYTHE-- TO PULL OFF THE GREATEST HISTORICAL EVENT OF ALL TIME--
--WHERE NOTHING ELSE COULD POSSIBLY TOP YOUR ACHIEVEMENT!
A PERCEPTIVE OBSERVATION, "CLARK KENT"!.. WORTHY OF A TRUE REPORTER!
WHICH IS THE ORIGINAL REASON YOU WERE INCLUDED IN MY EXPERIMENT! AS A JOURNALISM MAJOR, I INTENDED FOR YOU TO CHRONICLE THIS MOMENTOUS DAY FOR POSTERITY!
20 MORE SECONDS...AND I WILL STOP BEAMING THE MOON WITH MENTO-POWER--
--FOR THE EFFECTS WILL THEN BE PERMANENT... IRREVERSIBLE!
WHEN THE REST OF THE WORLD LEARNS HOW I MIRACULOUSLY VITALIZED THE MOON... THE NAME NOAM SYTHE WILL RING THROUGH THE AGES!
I'LL FINALLY HAVE WON THE BANNER HEADLINES I'VE BEEN CHEATED OUT OF ALL MY LIFE!
BUT SUPERMAN'S ALARMED EYES ARE OVER 200,000 MILES AWAY...
SYTHE-- LISTEN TO ME! TURN OFF THE MENTO-CANNON AT ONCE!
YOU MUST BE OUT OF YOUR MIND, SUPERMAN! I WOULD HAVE TO BE CRAZY TO TURN IT OFF NOW--
--AND I ASSURE YOU I'M NOT!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--MY TELESCOPIC VISION REVEALS THE MOON CAN'T CONTAIN THE MENTO-POWER MUCH LONGER!
IT'LL EXPLODE IF YOU DON'T STOP NOW!
8

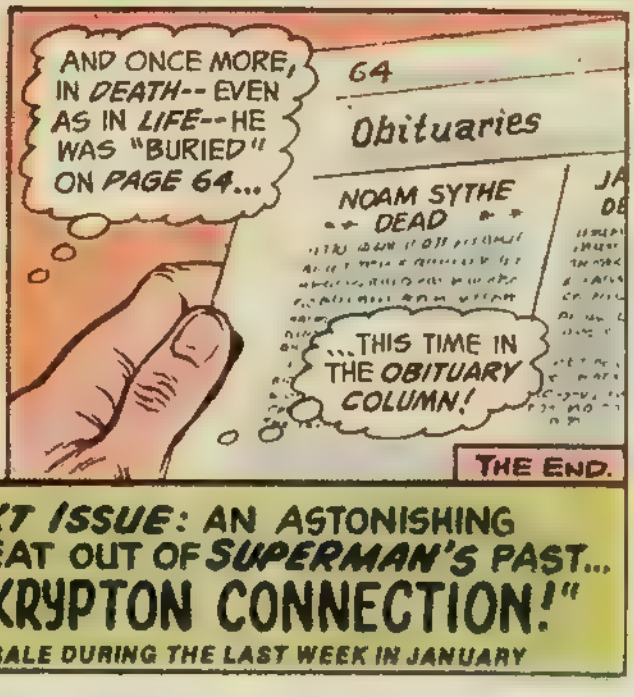

BAH! YOU'RE TRYING TO ROB ME OF MY DAY OF GLORY... BUT IT WON'T WORK!
YOU CAN'T DO A THING TO STOP ME AS LONG AS THOSE IMAGINARY GREEN K BARS ARE HOLDING YOU BACK!
DO YOU STILL BELIEVE THAT, SYTHE?
WH-AT?! THIS CAN'T BE! YOU ARE TOO WEAK TO MOVE!
WITH A HERCULEAN TUG, THE METROPOLIS MARVEL RIPS THE GIANT APPARATUS OUT OF THE FLOOR AND...
MUST DISPOSE OF THIS DEADLY CANNON BEFORE IT STARTS TEARING EARTH APART, TOO!
WITH THE MENTO-POWER BEAM DIVERTED, THE MOON INSTANTLY RETURNS TO ITS LIFELESS, STABLE SELF...
AND A DESPERATE NOAM SYTHE CLUTCHES ALONG FOR THE RIDE--!
ONE LAST CHANCE! I'VE HOOKED MYSELF UP TO ANNIHILATE SUPERMAN WITH AN OVERWHELMING BLAST OF THE POWER!











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"The KRYPTON CONNECTION!"
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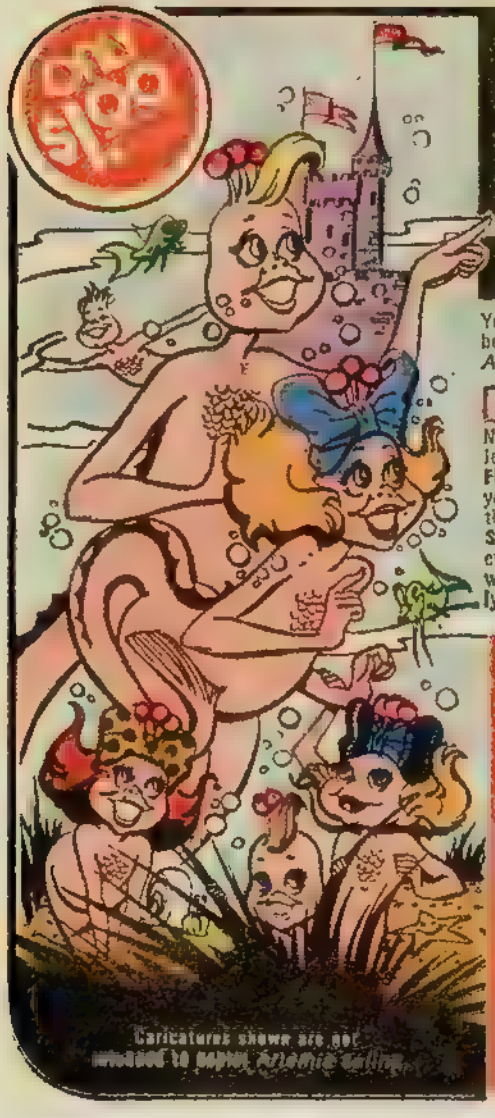

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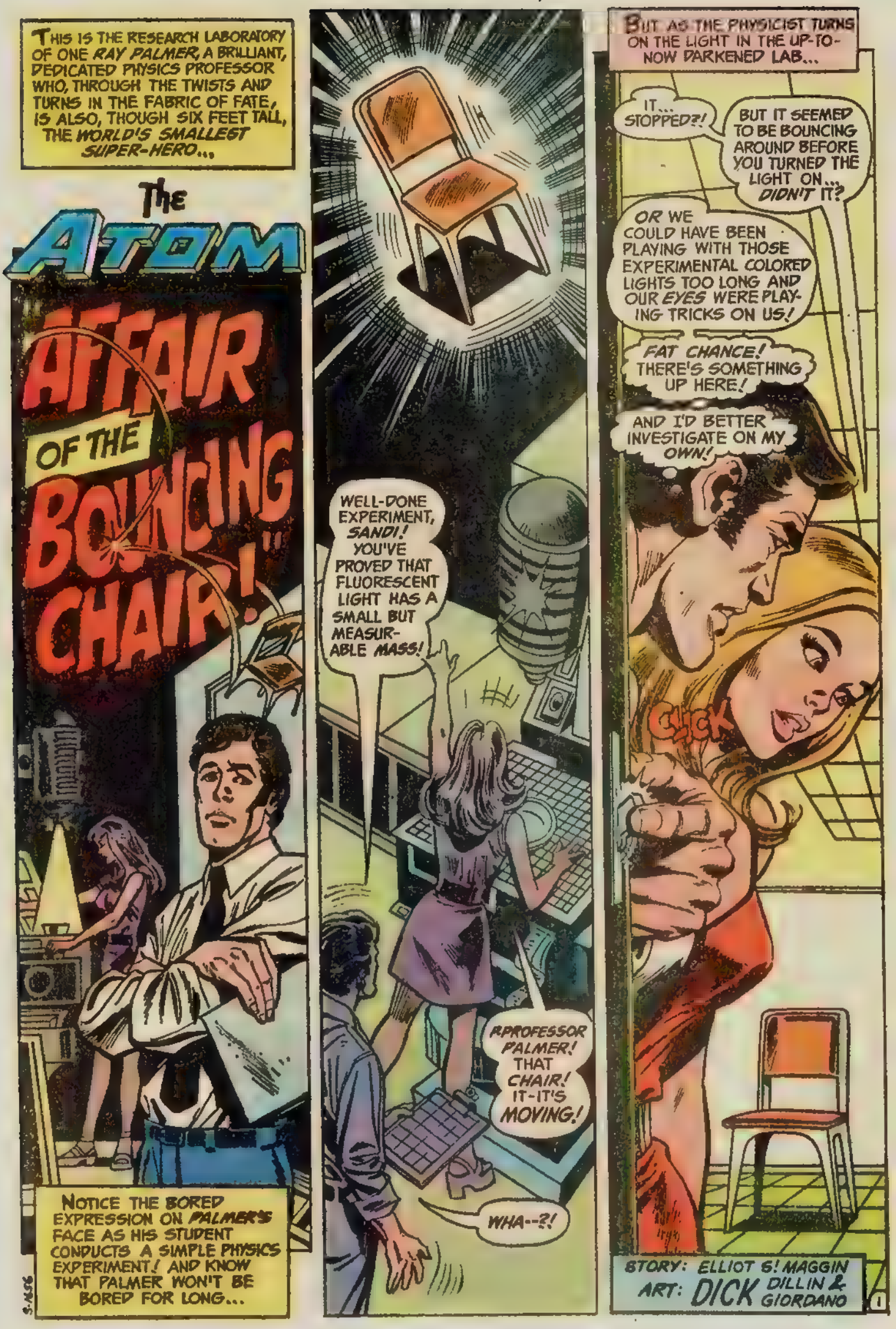
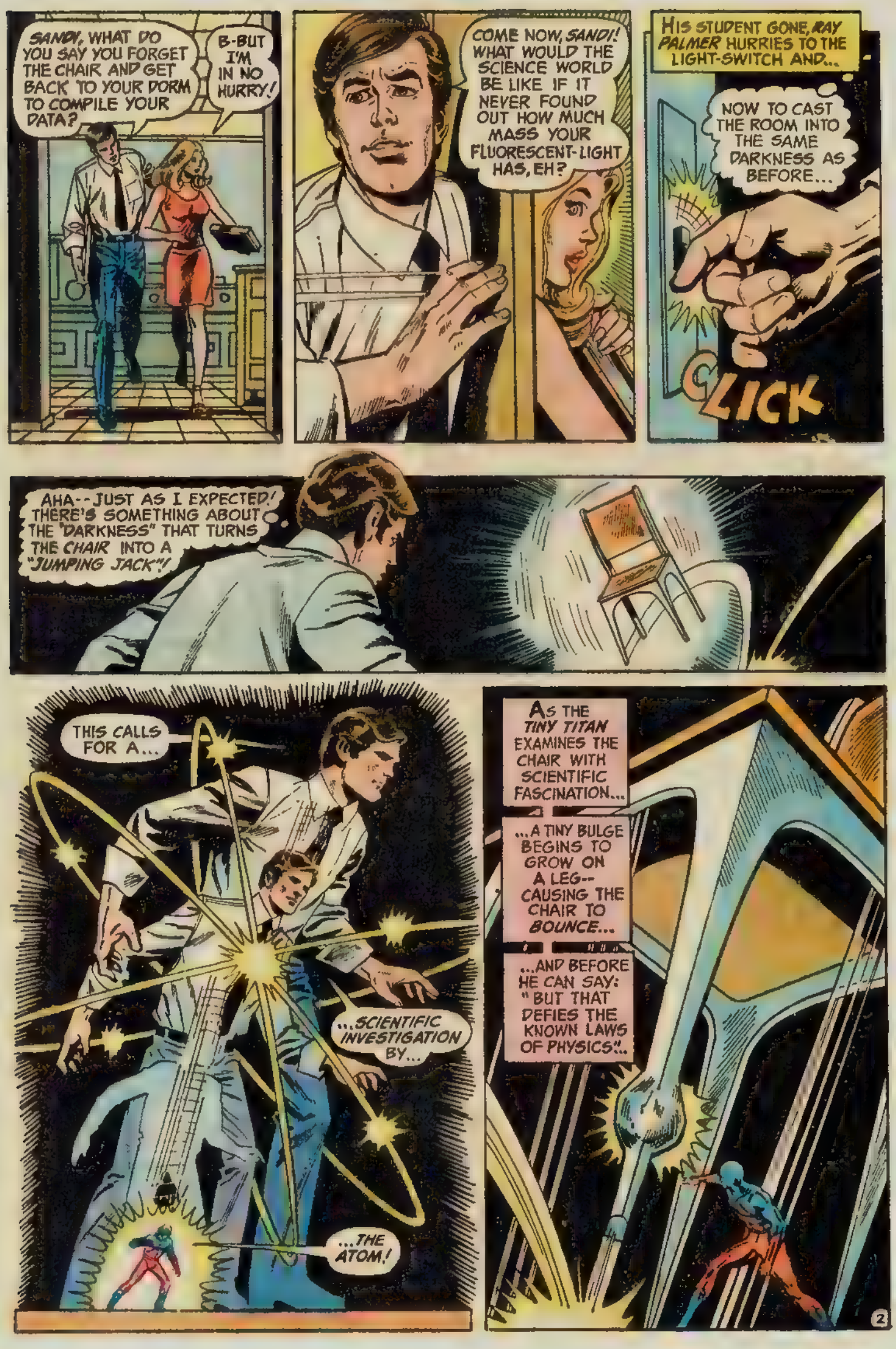
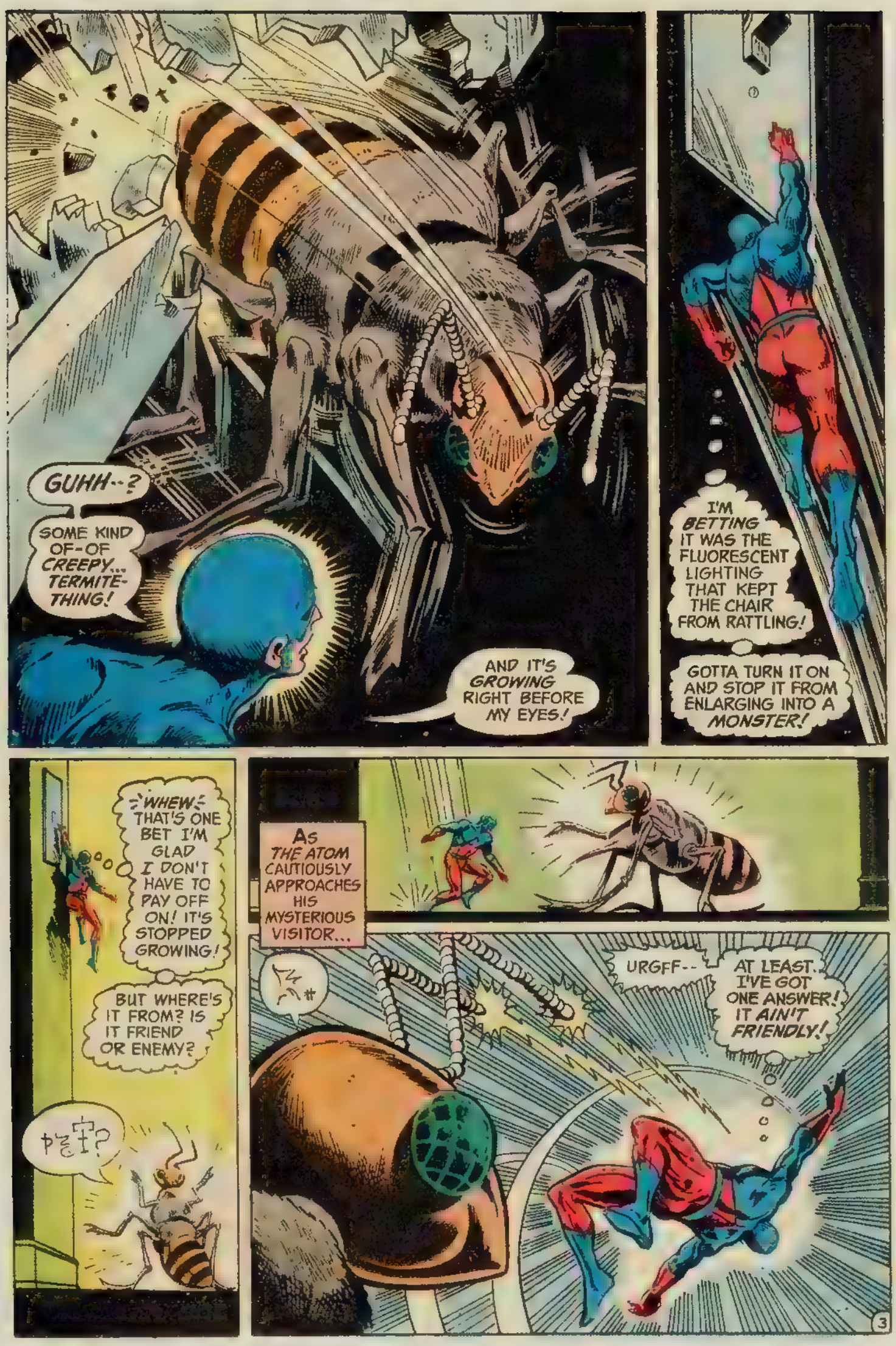
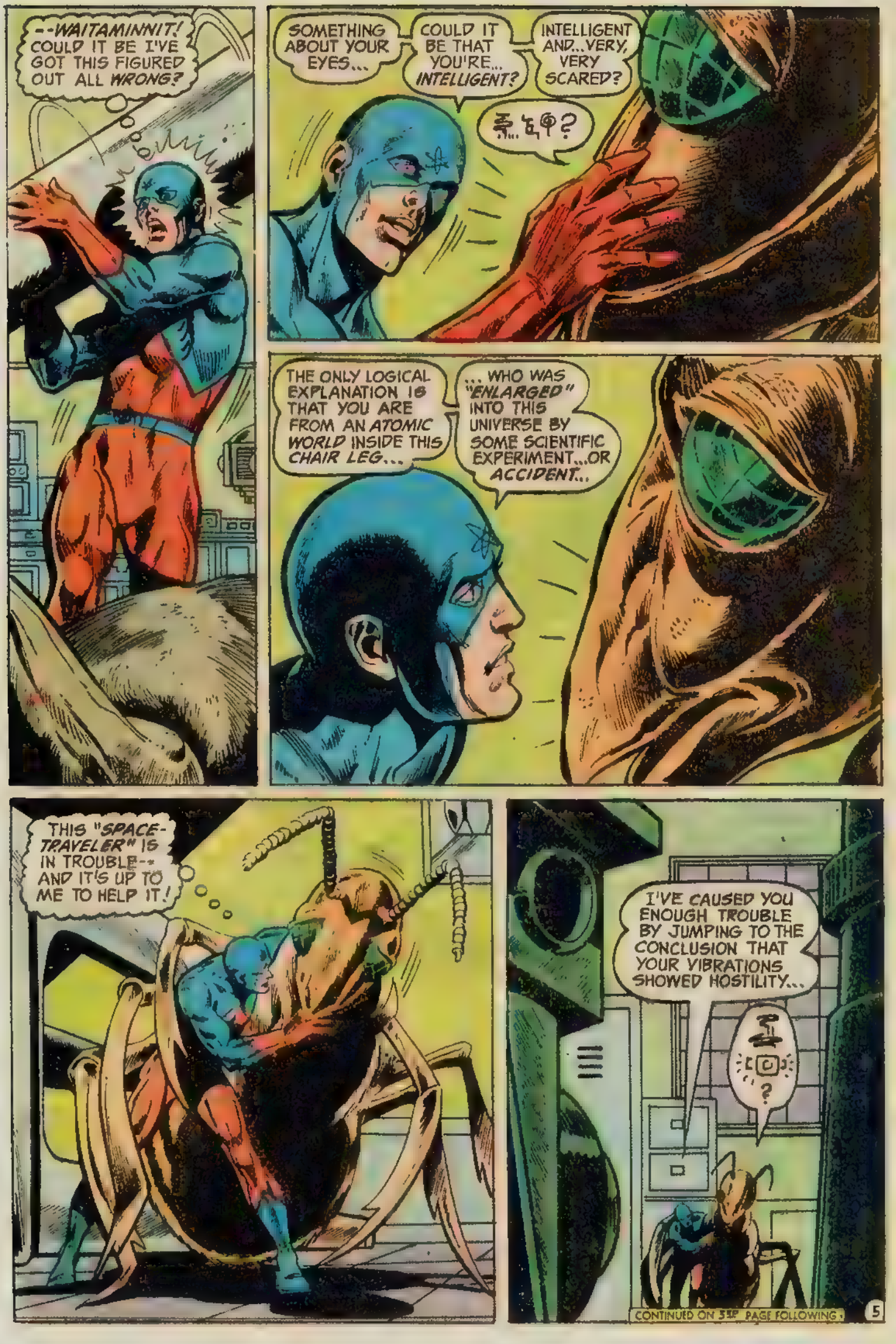

THIS IS THE RESEARCH LABORATORY OF ONE RAY PALMER, A BRILLIANT, DEDICATED PHYSICS PROFESSOR WHO, THROUGH THE TWISTS AND TURNS IN THE FABRIC OF FATE, IS ALSO, THOUGH SIX FEET TALL, THE WORLD'S SMALLEST SUPER-HERO...
The ATOM
AFFAIR OF THE BOUNCING CHAIR!"
NOTICE THE BORED EXPRESSION ON PALMER'S FACE AS HIS STUDENT CONDUCTS A SIMPLE PHYSICS EXPERIMENT! AND KNOW THAT PALMER WON'T BE BORED FOR LONG...
WELL-DONE EXPERIMENT, SANDI! YOU'VE PROVED THAT FLUORESCENT LIGHT HAS A SMALL BUT MEASURABLE MASS!
PROFESSOR PALMER! THAT CHAIR! IT-IT'S MOVING!
WHA--?!
BUT AS THE PHYSICIST TURNS ON THE LIGHT IN THE UP-TO-NOW DARKENED LAB...
IT... STOPPED?!
BUT IT SEEMED TO BE BOUNCING AROUND BEFORE YOU TURNED THE LIGHT ON... DIDN'T IT?
OR WE COULD HAVE BEEN PLAYING WITH THOSE EXPERIMENTAL COLORED LIGHTS TOO LONG AND OUR EYES WERE PLAYING TRICKS ON US!
FAT CHANCE! THERE'S SOMETHING UP HERE!
AND I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE ON MY OWN!
CLICK
STORY: ELLIOT S! MAGGIN
ART: DICK DILLIN & GIORDANO


SANDY, WHAT DO YOU SAY YOU FORGET THE CHAIR AND GET BACK TO YOUR DORM TO COMPILE YOUR DATA?
B-BUT I'M IN NO HURRY!
COME NOW, SANDI! WHAT WOULD THE SCIENCE WORLD BE LIKE IF IT NEVER FOUND OUT HOW MUCH MASS YOUR FLUORESCENT-LIGHT HAS, EH?
HIS STUDENT GONE, RAY PALMER HURRIES TO THE LIGHT-SWITCH AND...
NOW TO CAST THE ROOM INTO THE SAME DARKNESS AS BEFORE...
CLICK
AHA--JUST AS I EXPECTED! THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THE "DARKNESS" THAT TURNS THE CHAIR INTO A "JUMPING JACK"!
THIS CALLS FOR A...
...SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION BY...
...THE ATOM!
AS THE TINY TITAN EXAMINES THE CHAIR WITH SCIENTIFIC FASCINATION...
...A TINY BULGE BEGINS TO GROW ON A LEG--CAUSING THE CHAIR TO BOUNCE...
...AND BEFORE HE CAN SAY: "BUT THAT DEFIES THE KNOWN LAWS OF PHYSICS"...
2


GUHH--?
SOME KIND OF-OF CREEPY... TERMITE-THING!
AND IT'S GROWING RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!
I'M BETTING IT WAS THE FLUORESCENT LIGHTING THAT KEPT THE CHAIR FROM RATTLING!
GOTTA TURN IT ON AND STOP IT FROM ENLARGING INTO A MONSTER!
WHEW! THAT'S ONE BET I'M GLAD I DON'T HAVE TO PAY OFF ON! IT'S STOPPED GROWING!
BUT WHERE'S IT FROM? IS IT FRIEND OR ENEMY?
AS THE ATOM CAUTIOUSLY APPROACHES HIS MYSTERIOUS VISITOR...
URGFF--
AT LEAST, I'VE GOT ONE ANSWER! IT AIN'T FRIENDLY!
3

USING ITS ANTENNAE TO SHOOT VIBRATIONS AT ME!
WELL, IF "HOSTILE" IS ASKING FOR A FIGHT--
--THIS ATOM IS READY TO START BOMBING!
THAT OUGHT TO MAKE IT HOLLER "UNCLE"--OR THE EQUIVALENT--IN ITS LANGUAGE!
SPLAT!
BUT WHEN THE TINY TITAN ROLLS AWAY, LEAVING THE PULSING CREATURE WRITHING SUBMISSIVELY...
WHA--?! IT WON'T GIVE UP--
--STILL TURNING ON THOSE VIBRATIONS!
IF THIS CHARACTER IS A GLUTTON FOR PUNISHMENT--I'LL OBLIGE!
IF I'M GOING TO FIND OUT THE WHO, WHERE, AND WHY OF THIS THING...
...I'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL TO BEAT IT ONLY INTO SUBMISSION!
THWACK THWACK
4


--WAITAMINNIT! COULD IT BE I'VE GOT THIS FIGURED OUT ALL WRONG?
SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR EYES...
COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE... INTELLIGENT?
INTELLIGENT AND...VERY, VERY SCARED?
THE ONLY LOGICAL EXPLANATION IS THAT YOU ARE FROM AN ATOMIC WORLD INSIDE THIS CHAIR LEG...
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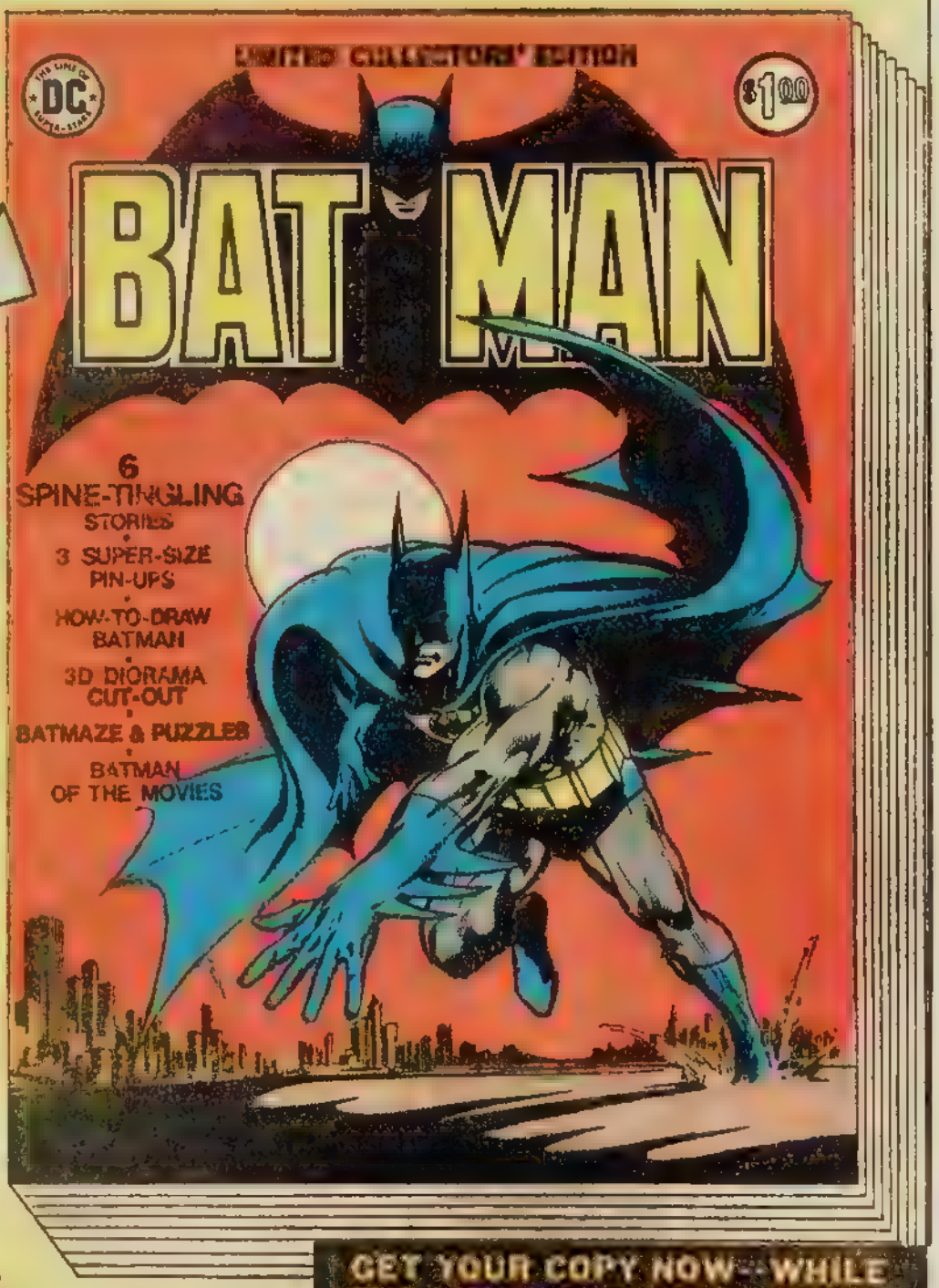

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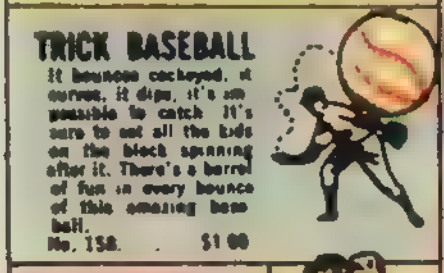

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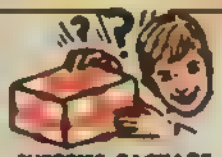

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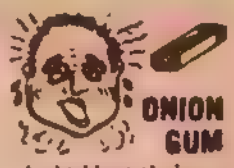

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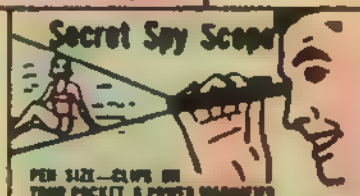

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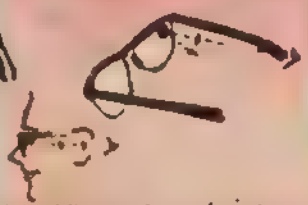

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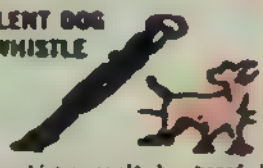

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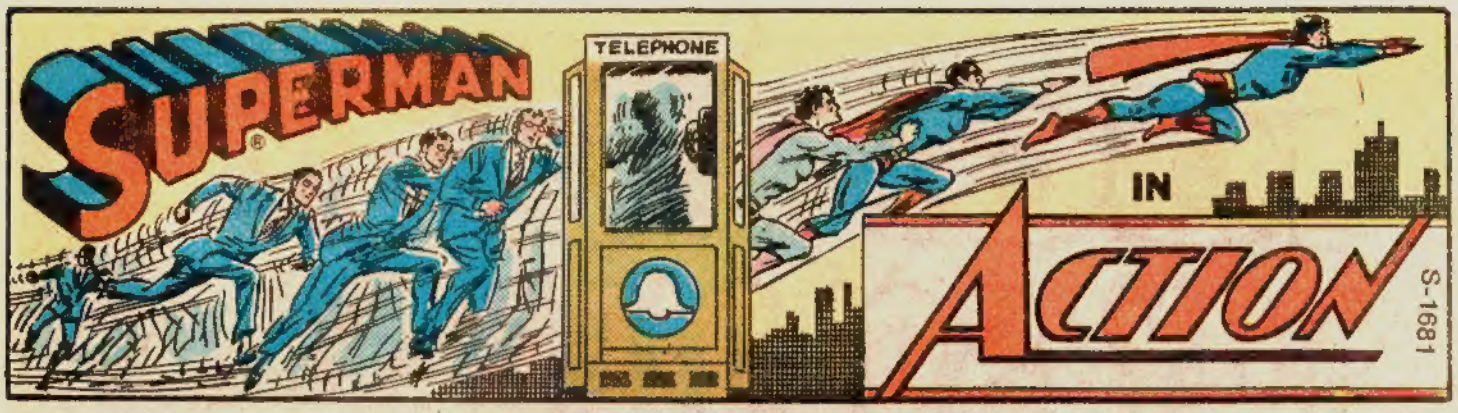
AIEE!!
OVER THE NEXT FEW MINUTES, THE SCIENTIST SWEATS AND MANAGES TO DETERMINE THAT...
FLUORESCENT LIGHT STOPPED YOUR "GROWTH" --SO THAT MUST BE THE LINK TO WHY YOU GREW OUT-OF-CONTROL!
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO REVERSE THAT GROWTH BY ALTERING MY OWN SHRINKING MECHANISM AND FOCUSING IT ON YOU!
THIS SLIVER OF WOOD CONTAINS THE MOLECULE WHICH IS YOUR HOME WORLD!
BY TUNING MY ELECTRON MACHINERY TO THE PRECISE VIBRATIONS OF YOUR BODY FUNCTIONS...
...I'LL SEE TO IT THAT...
...YOU ARE NATURALLY ATTRACTED...
...TO PRECISELY THE RIGHT MOLECULE THAT IS YOUR SUB-ATOMIC HOME!-- UNDERSTAND?
FOR THE SPACE OF A MOMENT THE TWO LIVING CREATURES EXCHANGE GLANCES...AND PERHAPS FEELINGS...
ITS VIBRATIONS ...WERE MEANT TO BE FRIENDLY-- THE EQUIVALENT OF A HANDSHAKE OR A PEACE SIGN!

SOON, AS THE TINY MAN FROM ONE WORLD EXCHANGES FRIENDLY VIBES WITH THE "GIANT" CREATURE FROM A WORLD WITHIN A SLIVER OF WOOD...
GOOD LUCK, FRIEND... AND SAFE JOURNEY!
GONE...BACK TO A TINY WORLD CAREENING ENDLESSLY AROUND A CLUMP OF PROTONS AND NEUTRONS!
WE'RE A STRANGE BREED, WE HUMANS...WHO REACT WITH VIOLENCE TO AN OPEN HAND OF FRIENDSHIP!
BUT WHO AMONG US WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT THE ALIEN'S VIBRATIONS WERE MEANT IN FRIENDSHIP --UHH?
KNOCK KNOCK
SOMEBODY AT THE DOOR! BETTER GET BACK TO BEING A STODGY PHYSICS PROFESSOR!
PROFESSOR PALMER-- YOU IN THERE? IT'S ME-- SANDI!
WHY, HELLO, SANDI! I SEE YOU'VE COMPILED YOUR DATA VERY QUICKLY!
YES, I FOUND THAT-- HEY! THAT CHAIR!
7
THIS IS THE CHAIR WE THOUGHT WAS BOUNCING AROUND BEFORE!
HOW'D YOU BREAK IT?
OH, I--ER-- DIDN'T BREAK IT!
YOU SEE, THERE WAS THIS MONSTROUS TERMITE FROM A SUB-ATOMIC UNIVERSE...
...WHO INVADED MY LABORATORY AND TRIED TO STEAL MY SECRET PIZZA FORMULA AND--
OH, PROFESSOR PALMER!
IF YOU PLOPPED DOWN IN YOUR CHAIR AND BROKE IT, IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF! I DO THINGS LIKE THAT ALL THE TIME!
WELL, I TRIED--!
THE END



Dear Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Bridwell:

There is one word that sums up the lead story of *Action* #429: epochal. The cover was not melodramatic. It was *super*-b. Actually, "The Man Who Wrote Superman's Obituary" looked like a title out of the "Kryptonite Sixties," and, in fact, had the qualities of the best works of that decade. Stories then did not concern the reader with earth-shaking changes as the contemporary comix are wont to do. Such was the case with "Obituary"; Mr. Maggin deliberately underplayed instead of sensationalized the discovery *Ryan Lowell* made. This introduction of a new "LL" character was handled well- and realistically. Unlike a sixties plot, *Ryan Lowell* is *not* an alien, he will *not* develop partial amnesia, nor will he die. The keeper of the *Daily Planet* morgue will live on to help *Kal-El*, whom he knows to be *Clark (Superman) Kent*. This is why "Obituary" was epochal.

That—and the well-executed *Human Target* (ouch!) vignette, "The Rodeo Riddle Contract"—made #429 well worth its twenty pages of *Action*. *Chris Chance* has made disguise, derring-do and, his specialty, dodging, more than a fine art. He has created a science. However, I personally prefer *Green Arrow* in the back-up slot (I guess I identifiy with the *Space-Age Sagittarian* 'cause I'm broke all the time), although Maggin's interpretation of *The Atom* is not lacking. But if you rotate *GA, Atom* and *Human Target*, I won't complain.

Brief art critique: in "Obituary," Bob Oksner proved he must be a Murphy's-apprentice, for his magic pen inked well. No comment on Swan's pencils . . . his head is swelled enough as it is—for good reason. Giordano did a fine job on "Rodeo Riddle Contract."

Keith Partain, Tulsa, Okla.

(Thanks for the rave review. You're one of the few who didn't spot a goof in the story—which the next correspondent spells out.—E.N.B.*)*

Dear Editor:

I'm not a boo-boo hunter, but when one keeps me from enjoying an otherwise good story, I feel I must mention it.

The problem is that, in #429, when *Superman* shouted *"Fire"* in Kryptonese, Ryan Lowell should *not* have responded! The story implied that *Lowell's* only contact with *Kryptonese* was as a written language. Well, being able to read a language does not necessarily mean that you can understand the spoken word. Just ask Joe Kubert. He can tell you that even though young *Tarzan* could read and write English fluently, he couldn't understand a single word of it that was spoken to him.

I'm sure a lot of others caught this, too. So please be more careful in the future.

Brian Madigan, Nedrow, N.Y.

(True, Tarzan could read and write English fluently —remarkably so, since he was able to write his own name on a sign—despite the face that he didn't know what sounds the letters represented! I don't know how he did it, but that's how Lowell was able to understand "Fire" in Kryptonese!—E.N.B.*)*

Dear Editor:

"The Man Who Wrote Superman's Obituary" was one of those stories that are well-balanced on the scale of entertainment. A fine plot, a number of surprises and a whale of a nice battle culminated beautifully in just 13 short pages.

The scale was never tipped the wrong way. Every facet of the story flowed into the next without a single hitch. Some stories require an arduous attempt when reading them. They can be over-complicated, too wordy or simply drawn out to the point that results in boredom. But this tale, like any other Elliot Maggin script, never seems to represent any of these pitfalls.

Those surprises I mentioned had to do with the appearance of some great superstars, an interesting comment by *Green Lantern* and a shocking ending. Getting back to that *Green Lantern* comment ("Why don't you forget this super-hero business and just become a reporter . . . or something!?"), it kind of reflects the troubles the *Emerald Crusader* has been having with his life. I'll bet he just wishes he could take off that ring and live a normal existence. He sure is a "troubled" guy.

Finally, the ending was shocking only because *Supes* didn't whisk *Lowell* off to the *Fortress* and put him under some *makes-you-forget-secret-identities-machine.* That's what would have been done in the old days.

Thanks . . .

Joe Peluso, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(That seems to be the consensus of most of the letters we received on the issue. But there are always some who disagree.—E.N.B.*)*

Dear Editor:

Old Chinese saying: A secret known by one is a secret. A secret known by two is no secret. A secret known by three is knowledge shouted to the world.

How many people know *Superman's* identity? The *JLA, JSA, Legion of Super-Heroes, Pete Ross,* and who knows who else? Maybe they oughta have an annual convention of identity-knowers.

Also, suppose somebody wanted to do an article on *Clark,* or maybe a *This Is Your Life* show? What conclusion would he jump to on seeing the file written in *Kryptonese*?

Adam Castro, New Rochelle, N.Y.

(Nobody sees the files without going through Lowell, *and he'd give them only the regular material written in English. If anything happens to him,* Superman *will clean out the* Kryptonese *material. And since the* Justice Society *lives on another Earth, and the* Legion *is in the far future, we don't count them among the regular identity-knowers*—E.N.B.*)*

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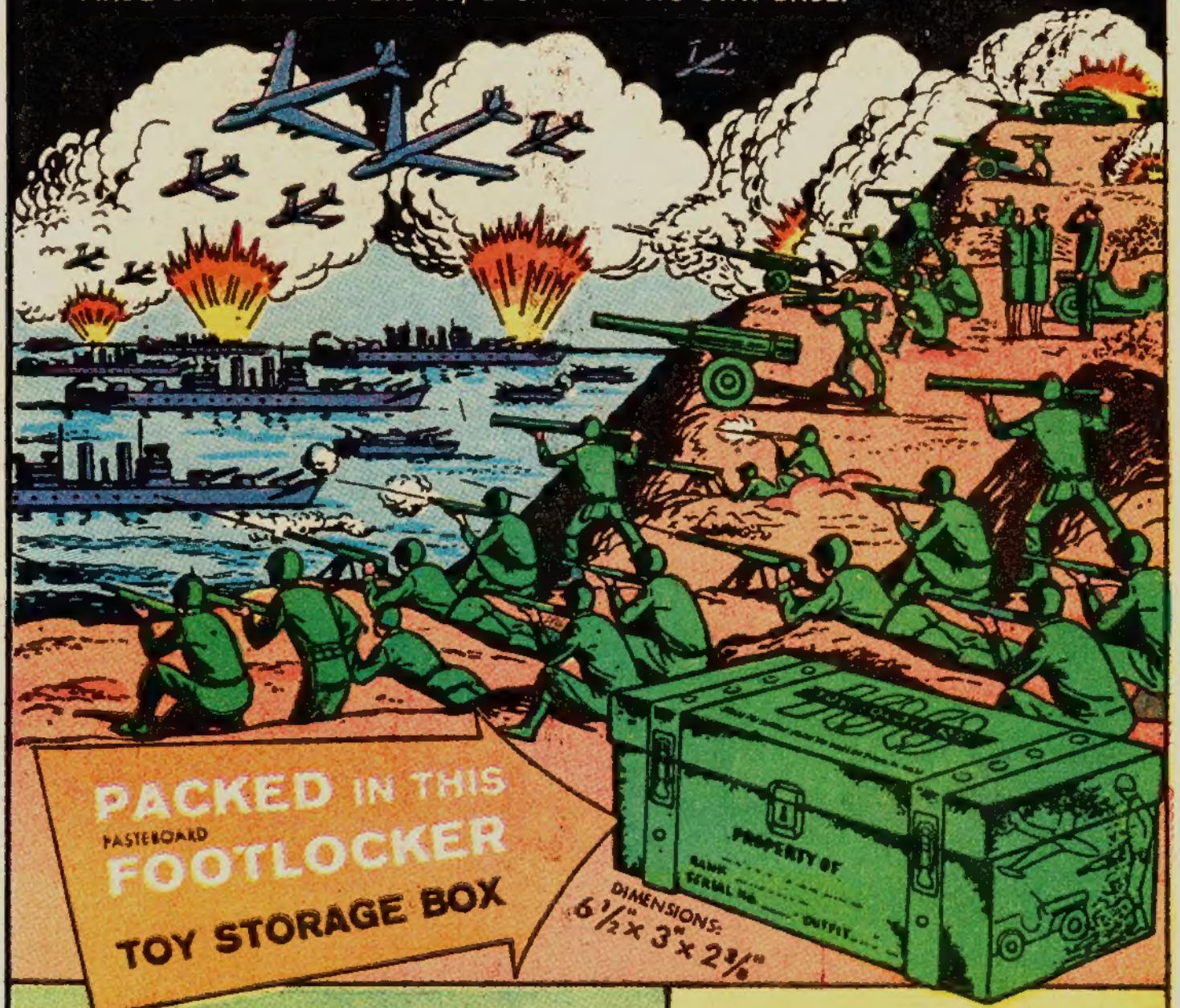

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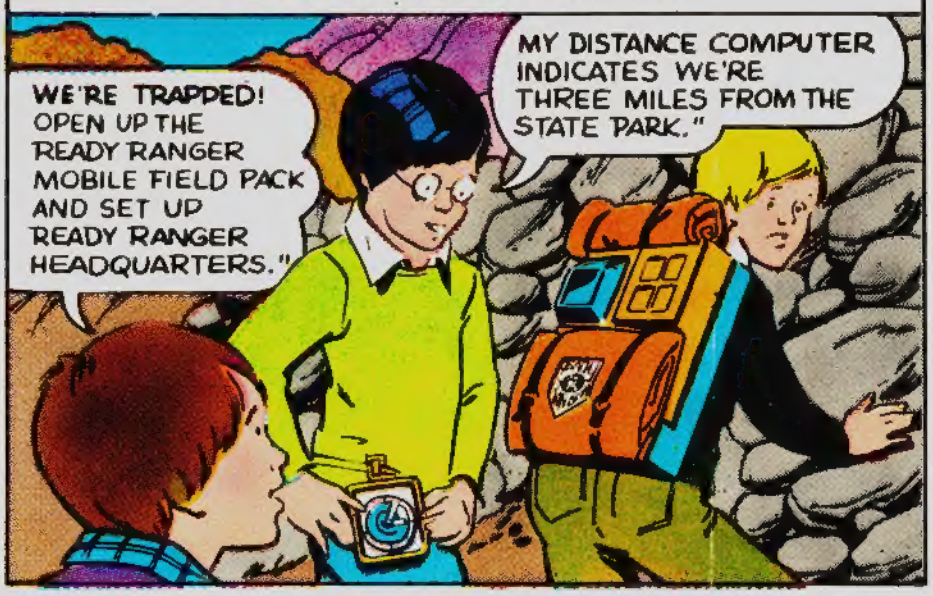

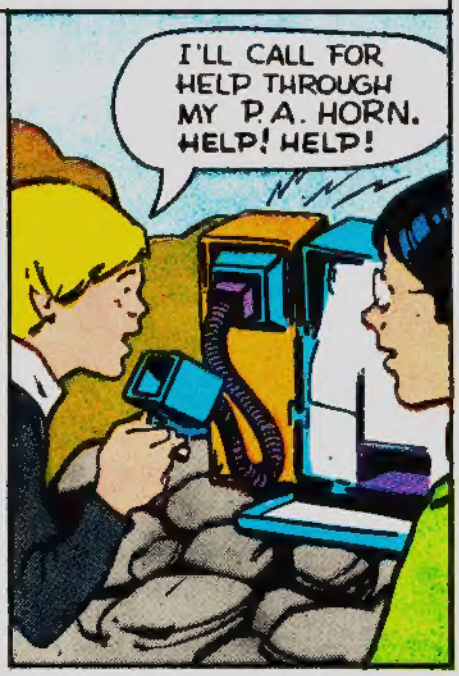

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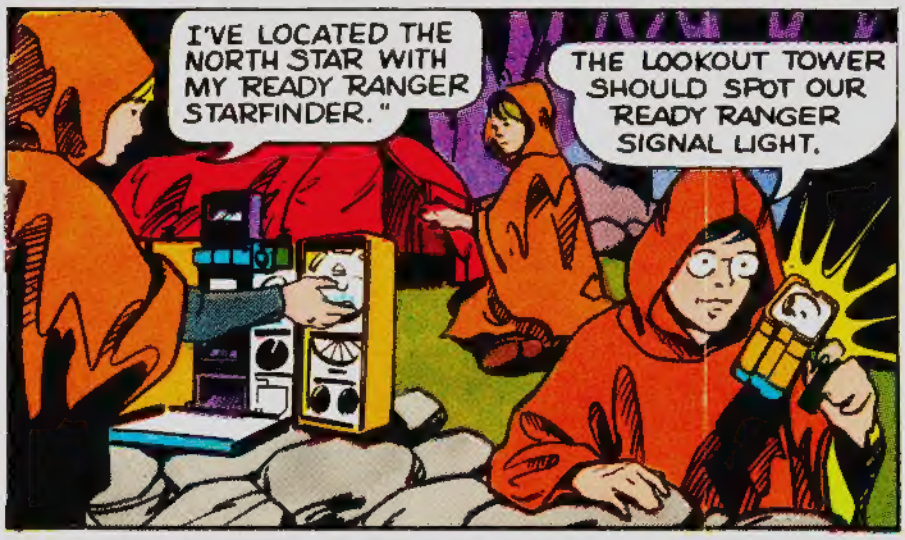

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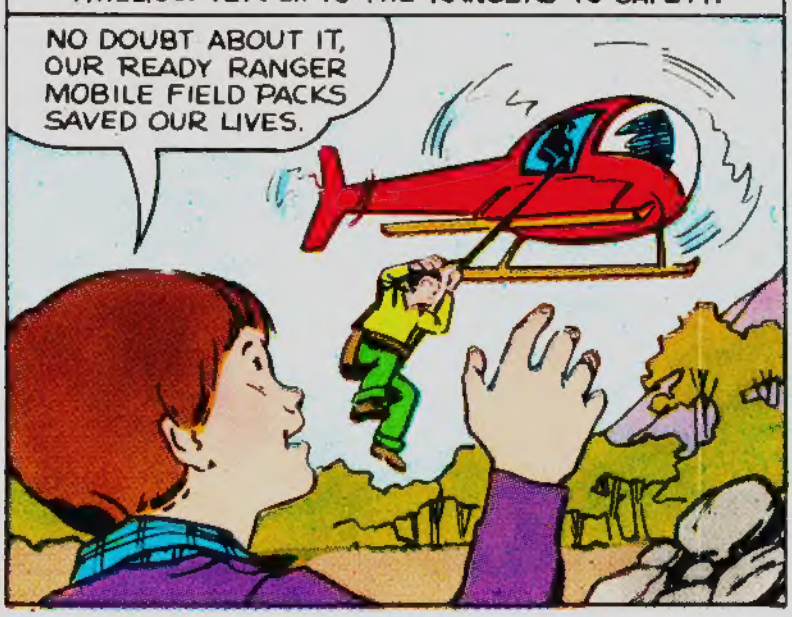

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